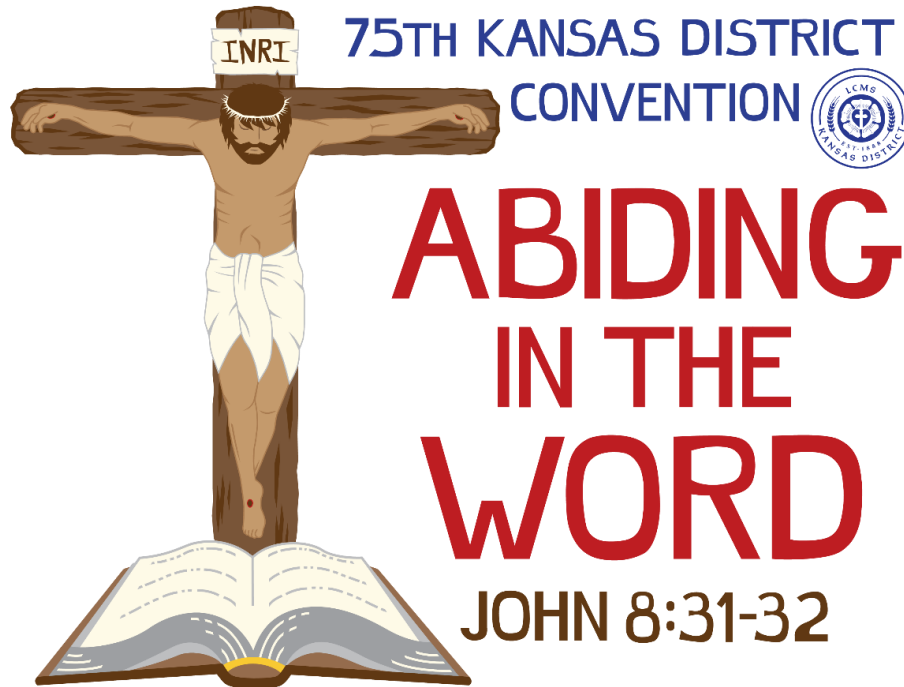


# 75<sup>th</sup> Convention of the LCMS Kansas District



## Convention Workbook



March 28, 2025





- 5:00–5:15 p.m. Caucus meetings as necessary (e.g., Floor committee chairs caucus with District President; Advisory pastors caucus with District Secretary to elect 2026 Synod Convention advisory delegate)
- 7:00 p.m. Convention Worship (*Tony's Pizza Event Center*)  
Host Congregation: Trinity, Salina  
Installation of the District President
- 8:30 p.m. President's Reception (*Tony's Pizza Event Center*)

## FRIDAY, JUNE 6

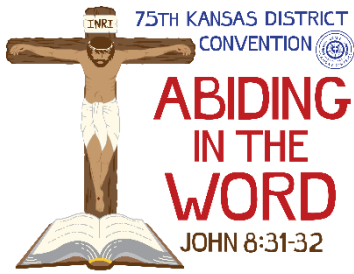
*Exhibits open 7:15 a.m.–1:30 p.m.*

- 7:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast (*Tony's Pizza Event Center*)
- 7:15 a.m. CV/VP Breakfast Meeting (Election of CV Chair; *Pioneer Room*)
- 8:00 a.m. Convention Devotion – Region Vice-President
- 8:15 a.m. Essay 2: Keynote Presenter
- 9:15 a.m. Greetings (video and in-person)
- 9:25 a.m. Convention Video #3
- 9:30 a.m. Resolutions – Floor Committee #3 (Share)
- 9:45 a.m. BREAK/Visit Displays (*beverages available*)
- 10:00 a.m. Synod Vice President's Report
- 11:15 a.m. Q & A with Synod Vice-President
- 11:45 a.m. Announcements and Prayer
- 11:50 a.m. LUNCH
- 1:00 p.m. Elections Committee (Election of Nominations Committee and At-Large Lay Members of the Board of Directors)
- 1:30 p.m. Essay 3: Keynote Speaker
- 2:30 p.m. Greetings (video or in-person)
- 2:40 p.m. Resolutions: Unfinished Business
- 3:10 p.m. BREAK (*snacks and beverages available*)
- 3:35 p.m. Commemoration of the Faithful Departed – Region Vice-President
- 3:55 p.m. Church Worker Care Update (video and handouts)
- 4:00 p.m. Omnibus Resolutions  
Remaining Resolutions: Floor Committees  
Unfinished Business
- 4:45 p.m. Closing Remarks  
Installation of newly elected officers
- 5:00 p.m. Conclusion/Adjournment (photos following adjournment)









# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## DELEGATE LIST

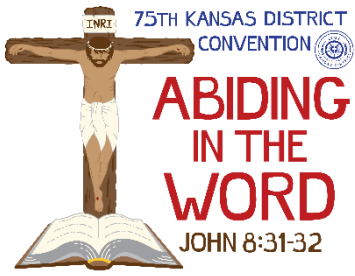
Congregation	Circuit	City	Pastoral Delegate	Lay delegate
Trinity Lutheran Church	101	Atchison	Rev. Jacob Dandy	
St. John Lutheran Church *	102	Easton		
St. Paul Lutheran Church*	103	Fairview	Rev. Brian Holle	Kurt Killman
Zion Lutheran Church*	104	Hiawatha	Rev. Brian Holle	Kurt Killman
Trinity Lutheran Church	105	Holton	Rev. Jerome Brownlee	Eric Hallauer
Immanuel Lutheran Church	106	Netawaka	Not eligible	
St. Matthew Lutheran Church	107	Nortonville	Rev. Richard Lally	Bill Niemann
Zion Lutheran Church	108	Powhattan	Not eligible	
First Lutheran Church	109	Sabetha	Rev. Ian Kinney	Michael Bachelor
Christ Lutheran Church	110	Wathena	Rev. Philip Wolf	
Risen Savior Lutheran Church	201	Basehor	Rev. Robert Weinkauff	Darrell Hall
Bethel Lutheran Church *	203	Kansas City		
Faith Lutheran Church *	204	Kansas City		
Grace Lutheran Church *	205	Kansas City		
Immanuel Lutheran Church *	206	Kansas City		
Our Saviour Lutheran Church	207	Kansas City	Not eligible	Vernelle Coffelt
St. Paul Lutheran Church	209	Leavenworth	Rev. Dale Skurla	Todd Orłowski
Trinity Lutheran Church	210	Leavenworth	Rev. Nathan Nelson	Kathy Rush
Trinity Family of Faith	211	Basehor	Rev. Jason Boetcher	Nick Avery
King of Kings Lutheran Church	301	Gardner	Rev. Daniel Wehmeier	Phil Gehrt
Christ Lutheran Church	302	Overland Park	Rev. Jeff Meyers	David DeFreece
Lord of Life Lutheran Church	303	Leawood	Rev. Scott Holder	
Trinity Lutheran Church	304	Mission	Rev. Luke Jacob	Steven Bialek
Redeemer Lutheran Church	305	Olathe	Rev. David Kahle	Bob Murphy
Bethany Lutheran Church	306	Overland Park	Rev. Sean Baker	Daniel Wohlford
First Lutheran Church	307	Paola	Rev. Christian Schultz	Richie Sinclair
Trinity Lutheran Church	308	Paola	Rev. Joshua Woelmer	Paul Brack
Hope Lutheran Church	309	Shawnee	Rev. Jacob Mueller	Edward Krzesinski
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church	310	Olathe	Rev. Joel Schultz	Churck Burdett
Augsburg Lutheran Church	311	Shawnee	Rev. Jay Watson	Terry Gansebom
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church	312	Louisburg	Rev. Andy Keltner	Brian Flanery
St. John Lutheran Church	401	Aliceville	Rev. Timothy Booth	Larry Gleue
Trinity Lutheran Church	403	Burlington	Rev. Timothy Wilcoxon	Lewis Lenard
Faith Lutheran Church*	404	Emporia		
Messiah Lutheran Church	405	Emporia	Not eligible	
Faith Lutheran Church	407	Ottawa	Rev. Timothy Roth	Linda Reed



Zion Lutheran Church	408	Vassar	Rev. James Kirschenmann	Jim Bauck
Trinity Lutheran Church	502	Caney	Not eligible	
Zion Lutheran Church	503	Chanute	Not eligible	
St. Paul Lutheran Church	504	Coffeyville	Rev. Jon Franson	Paul Scheuerman
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church *	505	Erie	Rev. Caleb Stoever	Richard Kmiec
Trinity Lutheran Church	506	Fort Scott	Rev. Michael Apfel	Art Murrin
Trinity Lutheran Church	507	Girard	Rev. Michael Hofmann	John Ragan
Immanuel Lutheran Church *	508	Hepler	Rev. Caleb Stoever	Richard Kmiec
St. Peter Lutheran Church	509	Humboldt	Rev. Matthew Jennings	Leon Storck
Zion Lutheran Church	510	Independence	Rev. Kevin Peterson	Phillip Fienen
Grace Lutheran Church	511	Iola	Rev. Joseph Goodroad	Rick Owens
St. Paul Lutheran Church	512	Oswego	Not eligible	
Trinity Lutheran Church*	513	Parsons		
Zion Lutheran Church*	515	Pittsburg		
Immanuel Lutheran Church	601	Lawrence	Rev. Andrew Wehling	Laura Carson
Redeemer Lutheran Church	602	Lawrence	Rev. Sean Kilgo	David Scott
Calvary Lutheran Church	603	Topeka	Rev. Benjamin Ockree	Kirk Johnson
Christ Lutheran Church	604	Topeka	Not eligible	Jason Adams
Faith Lutheran Church	605	Topeka	Rev. Jacob Heine	David Lippe
St. John Lutheran Church	607	Topeka	Rev. Andy Wright	Derek Smith
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church	609	Topeka	Rev. Kevin DeHope	Bradley Hammel
St. Peter Lutheran Church *	701	Barnes	Rev. Randy Jahnke	John Menzel
Bethlehem Lutheran Church*	702	Bremen	Rev. Aaron Fenker	Doug Schaefer
Immanuel Lutheran Church*	703	Bremen	Rev. Aaron Fenker	Doug Schaefer
St. Paul Lutheran Church	704	Clay Center	Rev. Paul Tessaro	Garry Stenzel
Bethlehem Lutheran Church *	705	Greenleaf	Rev. Randy Jahnke	John Menzel
Trinity Lutheran Church	706	Hanover	Not eligible	Jered Kruse
Immanuel Lutheran Church	708	Linn	Rev. Mark Gaschler	Rich Reith
Zion Lutheran Church	709	Linn	Rev. Timothy Koch	Scott Bokelman
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church	710	Marysville		
St. John Lutheran Church	711	Palmer	Rev. Joshua Hayes	Daniel Thalmann
Trinity Lutheran Church	712	Waterville	Not eligible	
St. John Lutheran Church	801	Alma	Rev. Bob Grimm	Dr. Bruce Schultz
St. Paul Lutheran Church*	802	Alta Vista	Rev. John Fries	Clint Grame
St. Paul Lutheran Church *	803	Duluth	Rev. Rick Twenhafel	Nikki Marten
Immanuel Lutheran Church	804	Junction City	Rev. Timothy McCall	
St. Paul Lutheran Church*	805	Junction City	Rev. John Fries	Clint Grame
St. Luke Lutheran Church	806	Manhattan	Rev. Michael Schmidt	Walter Fick
Trinity Lutheran Church	807	McFarland	Not eligible	Rick Schley
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church	808	Wamego	Rev. Jim Price	Tom Maurer
St. Luke Lutheran Church	809	Wheaton	Rev. Terry DeGiovanni	Tom Kasten
Christ Lutheran Church	810	Manhattan	Rev. James Woelmer	Kenny Titus
Faith Lutheran Church	901	Abilene	Rev. Nathan Harkins	Cliff Ascher
Calvary Lutheran Church*	902	Council Grove		
Immanuel Lutheran Church*	904	Herington	Rev. Jaron Melin	Roger Beecham
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*	905	Herington	Rev. Jaron Melin	Roger Beecham

St. John Lutheran Church*	906	Herington	Rev. Jaron Melin	Roger Beecham
Zion Lutheran Church*	907	Hillsboro		
St. John Lutheran Church	909	Lincolnvile	Rev. Alan Stahlecker	Barry Montgomery
Our Savior Lutheran Church*	910	Marion		
Trinity Lutheran Church*	911	Ramona	Rev. Clark Davis	Edward Meisinger
Grace Lutheran Church	912	Strong City	Not eligible	
St. John Lutheran Church*	913	Tampa	Rev. Clark Davis	Edward Meisinger
Zion Lutheran Church	914	Newton	Rev. Kurt Letcher	Randall Mainquist
Peace Lutheran Church	1001	Andover		
Christ Lutheran Church *	1002	Augusta	Rev. John Einem	Chris Green
Grace Lutheran Church *	1003	El Dorado	Rev. John Einem	Chris Green
Ascension Lutheran Church	1005	Wichita	Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer	Susan Moellinger
Holy Cross Lutheran Church	1006	Wichita	Rev. Scott Snow	Matthew List
St. Andrews Lutheran Church	1008	Wichita	Not eligible	
Risen Savior Lutheran Church	1009	Wichita		
Ascension Lutheran Church	1010	Pratt	Rev. Matthew Schultz	Eric McManaman
Zion Lutheran Church	1101	Argonia		Teddy Ladner
Redeemer Lutheran Church	1102	Arkansas City	Rev. Christopher Warneke	Joelyn Squires
St. Paul Lutheran Church	1103	Cheney	Rev. Anthony Masinelli	Daryl Lorenz
Faith Lutheran Church	1104	Derby	Rev. Thomas Johnson	Steve Bartlett
Calvary Lutheran Church	1105	Wellington	Not eligible	
Bethany Lutheran Church	1106	Wichita	Rev. Nicholas Cordt	Tonya Cordt
Immanuel Lutheran Church	1108	Wichita	Rev. Mark Lovett	Brent Ostgren
Trinity Lutheran Church	1109	Wichita	Rev. Aaron Filipek	Allen Herbert
Trinity Lutheran Church	1110	Winfield	Rev. Seth Meyer	Timothy Smith
Trinity Lutheran Church*	1111	Medicine Lodge	Not eligible	
St. John Lutheran Church*	1112	Nashville	Not eligible	
St. Paul Lutheran Church	1113	Preston	Rev. Michael Schotte	Kevin Schwertfeger
Immanuel Lutheran Church	1201	Canton	Rev. Troy Slater	Travis Sebitts
St. Paul Lutheran Church	1202	Haven	Rev. Nathan Dudley	Jennifer Bontrager
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	1204	Hutchinson	Rev. Quentin Nuttmann	Ronald Neujahr
Grace Lutheran Church *	1205	Lyons	Rev. Thomas Thierfelder	Nathan Root
Grace Lutheran Church	1206	McPherson	Rev. Dale Dumperth	Jim Armbrust
Christ the King Lutheran Church	1208	Salina	Rev. Aaron Wagner	Andrew Couch
Trinity Lutheran Church	1209	Salina	Rev. Mark Boxman	Jeremy Obermeyer
St. John Lutheran Church *	1210	Ellinwood	Rev. Thomas Thierfelder	Nathan Root
Zion Lutheran Church	1301	Downs	Rev. Sherman Stenson	Tim Wilson
Immanuel Lutheran Church	1302	Ellsworth	Rev. Luke Brown	Bill Evans
St. Paul Lutheran Church	1303	Ellsworth	Not eligible	
Trinity Lutheran Church	1306	Hunter	Rev. Matthew Schneider	Kenneth Stewart
St. John Lutheran Church *	1307	Lincoln	Rev. Don Haselhuhn	David Abell
St. Paul Lutheran Church *	1308	Lincoln	Rev. Don Haselhuhn	David Abell
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	1311	Sylvan Grove	Rev. Christopher Craig	Tyler Gier
Zion Lutheran Church*	1312	Claflin	Rev. Daniel Harders	Tiffany Harders
Our Saviour Lutheran Church	1313	Great Bend	Not eligible	
Concordia Lutheran Church	1314	Hoisington	Rev. Gary Wolf	Ken Edgett

St. Peter Lutheran Church*	1315	Holyrood	Rev. Daniel Harders	Tiffany Harders
Grace Lutheran Church	1316	Larned	Not eligible	
Redeemer Lutheran Church	1501	Atwood	Not eligible	
Trinity Lutheran Church	1502	Colby	Rev. Philip Hoppe	Betty Kruse
Immanuel Lutheran Church*	1503	Hoxie	Not eligible	
First St John Lutheran Church	1504	Kensington	Rev. David Hutson	Steve Wangerin
Immanuel Lutheran Church	1506	Norton	Rev. Matthew Goehring	Mitchell Hempler
Immanuel Lutheran Church*	1507	Oakley	Not eligible	
St. John Lutheran Church*	1508	Oberlin	Not eligible	
First Lutheran Church	1509	Phillipsburg	Not eligible	Michela Hiesterman
Grace Lutheran Church	1510	Hill City	Not eligible	
Messiah Lutheran Church	1511	Hays	Not eligible	Joe Chretien
Peace Lutheran Church*	1512	Natoma	Rev. Michael Schmidt	Logan Numrich
First Lutheran Church*	1513	Plainville	Rev. Michael Schmidt	Logan Numrich
Immanuel Lutheran Church*	1603	Lakin	Rev. Michael Hageman	Ron Hall
Holy Cross Lutheran Church *	1605	Dodge City	Not eligible	Ronald Albrecht
Trinity Lutheran Church *	1607	Garden City	Rev. Michael Hageman	Ron Hall
St. Paul Lutheran Church *	1609	Jetmore	Not eligible	
Grace Lutheran Church*	1610	Liberal	Rev. Jason Toombs	Milton Brune
St John Lutheran Church	1611	Meade	Rev. Mark Mozeik	Mickey Thomas
Zion Lutheran Church*	1612	Offerle	Rev. Stanley Palmer	Bret Lancaster
Holy Cross Lutheran Church	1613	Scott City	Rev. Matthew Koterba	Stephen Kucharik
Grace Lutheran Church*	1615	Ulysses	Rev. Michael Hageman	Ron Hall
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*	1617	Kinsley	Rev. Stanley Palmer	Bret Lancaster
Peace Lutheran Church	1618	Greensburg		
Peace Lutheran Church*	1619	Beaver, OK	Rev. Jason Toombs	Milton Brune

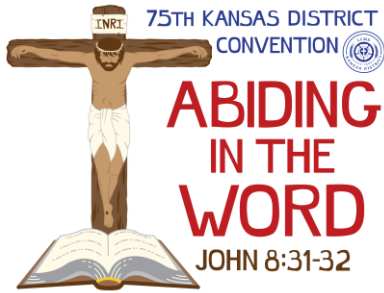


# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## KANSAS DISTRICT

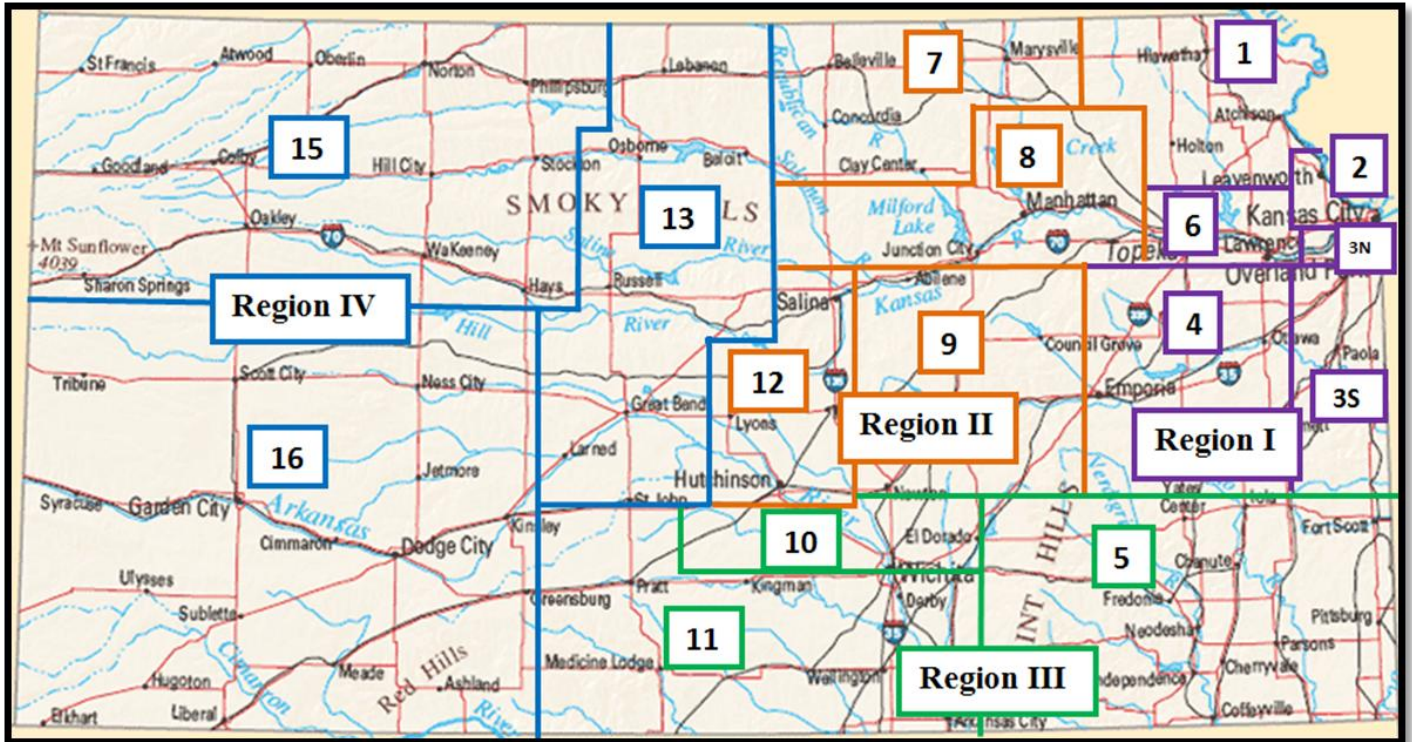
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# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## KANSAS DISTRICT REGIONS



**REGION I**

- Circuit 1
- Circuit 2
- Circuit 3 North
- Circuit 3 South
- Circuit 4
- Circuit 6

**REGION II**

- Circuit 7
- Circuit 8
- Circuit 9
- Circuit 12

**REGION III**

- Circuit 5
- Circuit 10
- Circuit 11

**REGION IV**

- Circuit 13
- Circuit 15
- Circuit 16

## REGION LISTING – KANSAS DISTRICT (as of March 2025)

### REGION I (Circuits 1, 2, 3, 4, 6)

#### Circuit 1 – Atchison

Atchison, Trinity .....	Rev. Jacob Dandy
.....	Rev. Marty Reed
.....	Rev. Michael Carney SMP
Easton, St. John .....	(served by Rev. Rick Twenhafel)
Fairview, St. Paul .....	Rev. Brian Holle
Hiawatha, Zion.....	Rev. Brian Holle
Holton, Trinity.....	Rev. Jerome Brownlee
Netawaka, Immanuel .....	Vacant
Nortonville, St. Matthew .....	Rev. Richard Lally
Powhattan, Zion.....	Vacant
Sabetha, First .....	Rev. Ian Kinney
Wathena, Christ.....	Rev. Philip Wolf
Fairview, Immanuel.....	Closed 1/1/2023

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Michael Dunaway

**Commissioned Advisory** – David Birnbaum, Julia Birnbaum, Jennifer Curley, Joyce Duitsman, Rachel Goodpasture, Steven Hobus, Monica Lennington, Jill Lowe, Laurie Reed, Melissa Wolf

#### Circuit 2 – Kansas City North

Basehor, Risen Savior .....	Rev. Robert Weinkauf
.....	Rev. Zachariah Burgdorf
Kansas City, Bethel .....	(served by Rev. Kenneth Nettling)
Kansas City, Faith.....	Rev. Kenneth Nettling
Kansas City, Grace.....	(served by Rev. Kenneth Nettling)
Kansas City, Immanuel.....	(served by Rev. Kenneth Nettling)
Kansas City, Our Saviour .....	Vacant
Kansas City, St. Luke .....	Left the LCMS 11/25/2024
Leavenworth, St. Paul .....	Rev. Dale Skurla
Leavenworth, Trinity .....	Rev. Damian Snyder
.....	Rev. Nathan Nelson
Basehor, Trinity Family of Faith.....	Rev. Jason Boetcher

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Joel Cundiff, Rev. David Parks, Rev. Peter Tremain

**Commissioned Advisory** – Laura Baack, Kevin Dierks, Jay Floetke, Pam Floetke, Helen Genter, Cynthia Hammons, Cheryl Kirkendoll, Lori Lott, Shannon Manley, Ashley Nelson, Sarah Niemann, David Saving, Rebecca Thomlinson, Susan Wells

#### Circuit 3 North

Overland Park, Christ .....	Vacant
.....	Rev. Jeffrey Meyers
Mission & Shawnee, Trinity .....	Rev. Mark Wood
.....	Rev. Luke Jacob
.....	Rev. Daniel Martinez
Olathe, Redeemer .....	Rev. David Kahle
Shawnee, Hope .....	Rev. Jacob Mueller
Olathe, Beautiful Savior.....	Rev. Joel Schultz
.....	Rev. Michael Ada
.....	Rev. John Kastner
Shawnee, Augsburg .....	Rev. Jay Watson

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Thomas Brewer, Rev. Stephen Eckert, Rev. Ronald Flentgen, Rev. Daniel Grams, Rev. Thomas Harries, Rev. LeRoy Hovel, Rev. Edward Kettner, Rev. Jeffrey Kunze, Rev. Richard Pingel, Rev. Roger Schepmann, Rev. Mark Schulz

**Commissioned Advisory** – Kristine Alsin, Janet Begley, Nancy Chapin, Hannah Christian, Ronald Cornett, Debbie Coughlin, Elizabeth Counts, Korey Danley, Lauren Delancy, Aleen Edge, Diane Eichholz, Kayla Ernstmeyer, Amber Goeglein, Susan Grams, Richard Hanebutt, Kathleen Hanebutt, Diane Harries, Patricia Hoffman, Karen Horrigan, Brent Howard, Michelle Howard, Nancy Jankowski, Sybil Kramer, Marjorie Krzesinski, Kathy McIntosh, Miranda Mondary, Janette Reinke, Roberta Schempp, Kristi Schkade, Lester Schmidt, Carol Schneider, Amy Schultz, Arlyn Sprecher, Lorraine Thaete, Kelsey Winter

**Circuit 3 South**

Gardner, King of Kings ..... Rev. Daniel Wehmeier  
 Leawood, Lord of Life ..... Rev. Scott Holder  
 Overland Park, Bethany ..... Rev. Sean Baker  
 Paola, First ..... Rev. Christian Schultz  
 Paola, Trinity ..... Rev. Joshua Woelmer  
 Louisburg, Christ Our Savior ..... Rev. James (Andy) Keltner

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Mark Croucher, Rev. Paul Helmer, Rev. Paul Hoppe, Rev. Thomas Krause, Rev. Jerome Peck, Rev. William Postel, Rev. Edward Trost

**Commissioned Advisory** – Sarah Abramovitz, Molly Baker, Lillian Brandt, Jody Brown, Debra Carter, Megan Darby, Sharon Fries, Angel Gillespie, Jana Grimm, Joanna Hadle, Anna Johnson, Joshua Keithley, Kevin Kuske, Jane Limback, Dean Lovig, Randi Petrik, Andrea Roettger, Nancy Schulz

**Circuit 4 – Emporia**

Aliceville, St. John..... Rev. Timothy Booth  
 Burlington, Trinity..... Rev. Timothy Wilcoxon  
 Emporia, Faith ..... Rev. Adam Reichart  
 Emporia, Messiah ..... Vacant  
 Garnett, Trinity ..... Closed 1/8/2024  
 Ottawa, Faith ..... Rev. Timothy Roth  
 Vassar, Zion..... Rev. James Kirschenmann

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Charlie Adams, Rev. Peter Bertram, Rev. Charlie Scott, Rev. Norbert Tegtmeier

**Commissioned Advisory** – Connie Becker, Emily Jaster, Terrence Rohlfing, Elaine Whiteneck

**Circuit 6 – Topeka-Lawrence**

Lawrence, Immanuel ..... Rev. Andrew Wehling  
 Lawrence, Redeemer ..... Rev. Sean Kilgo  
 Topeka, Calvary ..... Rev. Benjamin Ockree  
 Topeka, Christ ..... Vacant  
 Topeka, Faith ..... Rev. Jacob Heine  
 ..... Rev. Martin Albrecht (SMP)  
 ..... Rev. Jeff Lane (SMP)  
 Topeka, St. John’s ..... Rev. Andrew Wright  
 ..... Rev. Nicholas Belcher  
 Topeka, Prince of Peace ..... Rev. Kevin DeHope

**Ordained Advisory** –Rev. Richard Bruenger, Rev. Neil Buono, Rev. Roger Goetz, Rev. Christopher Kellogg, Rev. Donald Miller, Rev. Robert Nestler, Rev. Cody Norton, Rev. Gerald Radtke, Rev. Joseph Seifert, Rev. Frederick Smith, Rev. Norbert Wodtke

**Commissioned Advisory** – Amanda Adams, Kathy Bartels, James Bradshaw, Joanna Bradshaw, Marilyn Bruenger, Debra Freel, Philip Frusti, Betty Goetz, Erin Grass, Joshua Grass, Donna Hass, Dennis Hintz, Bethany Johnson, Andrea Kosmicki, Walter Malone, Heather McCormick, Amie Morlock, Miriam Wehling,

**REGION II (Circuits 7, 8, 9, 12)**

**Circuit 7 – Linn**

Barnes, St. Peter .....	Rev. Randy Jahnke
Bremen, Bethlehem .....	Rev. Aaron Fenker
Bremen, Immanuel .....	Rev. Aaron Fenker
Clay Center, St. Paul .....	Rev. Paul Tessaro
Greenleaf, Bethlehem.....	Rev. Randy Jahnke
Hanover, Trinity .....	Vacant
Linn, Immanuel.....	Rev. Mark Gaschler
Linn, Zion .....	Rev. Timothy Koch
Marysville, Mt. Calvary .....	Rev. Philip Miller
.....	Rev. Jay Williamson (SMP)
Palmer, St. John .....	Rev. Joshua Hayes
Waterville, Trinity .....	Vacant

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Rodney Fritz, Rev. John Kirk, Rev. William Wingfield

**Commissioned Advisory** – Roxanne Bayer, Rhonda Beethe, David Beikmann, Diane Beikmann, Mildred Beikmann, Renae Bott, Bradley Erickson, Terry Harries, Allison Klipp, Sheryl Kruse, John Macy, Abigail Meyer, Katie Olson, Jeremy Pera, Jessie Uffman

**Circuit 8 – Manhattan**

Alma, St. John .....	Rev. Robert Grimm
Alta Vista, St. Paul.....	Rev. John Fries
Duluth, St. Paul.....	Rev. Rick Twenhafel
Junction City, Immanuel .....	Rev. Timothy McCall
Junction City, St. Paul.....	Rev. John Fries
Manhattan, St. Luke’s.....	Rev. Michael Schmidt
McFarland, Trinity .....	Vacant
Wamego, Mt. Calvary .....	Rev. James Price
Wheaton, St. Luke .....	Rev. Terry DeGiovanni
Manhattan, Christ .....	Rev. James Woelmer

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Lawrence Boye, Rev. King Crawford, Rev. Alan Estby, Rev. David Gruoner, Rev. David Meier, Rev. Justin Panzer, Rev. Christian Schultz

**Commissioned Advisory** – Orville Altevogt, Harmon Butler, Rebecca Frank, Whitney Howard, Tracie Hudson, Morris Olson, William Prann, Evelyn Schmidt, Kristina Schmidt, Andrea White, Paul White

**Circuit 9 – Herington**

Abilene, Faith.....	Rev. Nathan Harkins
Council Grove, Calvary.....	Rev. Adam Reichart
Herington, Immanuel .....	Rev. Jaron Melin
Herington, Our Redeemer .....	Rev. Jaron Melin
Herington, St. John .....	Rev. Jaron Melin
Hillsboro, Zion.....	Rev. John Werner
.....	Rev. Frank Johnson (SMP)
Lincolnton, St. John .....	Rev. Alan Stahlecker
Marion, Our Savior .....	Rev. John Werner
Ramona, Trinity .....	Rev. Clark Davis
Strong City, Grace .....	Vacant
Tampa, St. John .....	Rev. Clark Davis
Newton, Zion.....	Rev. Kurt Letcher

**Commissioned Advisory** – Charles Eaton, Elizabeth Melin



**Circuit 12 – Hutchinson-Salina**

Canton, Immanuel .....	Rev. Troy Slater
Haven, St. Paul.....	Rev. Nathan Dudley
Hutchinson, Our Redeemer .....	Rev. Quentin Nuttmann
.....	Rev. Henry Blickhahn (SMP)
Lyons, Grace .....	Vacant
McPherson, Grace.....	Rev. Dale Dumperth
Salina, Christ the King .....	Rev. Aaron Wagner
.....	Rev. Timothy Wangerin
Salina, Trinity .....	Rev. Mark Boxman
.....	Rev. Dennis Kootz
Ellinwood, St. John .....	Rev. Thomas Thierfelder
.....	Rev. Kenton Abbott (SMP)

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Leroy Pralle, Rev. Allen Woelzlein

**Commissioned Advisory** – Sharon Johnson, Jamie Kootz, Denise Lawrenz, Kate Soeken, Sarah Ann Stoelting, Samantha Wagner

**REGION III (Circuits 5, 10, 11)**

**Circuit 5 – Independence**

Caney, Trinity.....	Vacant
Chanute, Zion .....	Vacant
Coffeyville, St. Paul.....	Rev. Jon Franson
Erie, Good Shepherd .....	Rev. Caleb Stoever
Fort Scott, Trinity .....	Rev. Michael Apfel
Girard, Trinity .....	Rev. Michael Hofmann
Hepler, Immanuel .....	Rev. Caleb Stoever
Humboldt, St Peter .....	Rev. Matthew Jennings
.....	Rev. Don Copley (SMP)
Independence, Zion.....	Rev. Kevin Peterson
Iola, Grace .....	Rev. Joseph Goodroad
Oswego, St. Paul.....	Vacant
Parsons, Trinity.....	Rev. Theodore Cook
Pittsburg, Zion.....	Rev. Theodore Cook

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Ervin Daugherty, Rev. David Symm

**Commissioned Advisory** – Angela Achong, Drew Achong, Dorothy Bredehoft, Jennifer Jennings, Lisa Krenz, Eric Pralle, Jolene Schultz, Bethany Stoever

**Circuit 10 – Wichita North**

Andover, Peace .....	Rev. Stephen Wipperman
Augusta, Christ .....	Rev. John Einem
El Dorado, Grace .....	Rev. John Einem
Wichita, Ascension .....	Rev. Michael Bingenheimer
.....	Rev. Scott Golti
.....	Rev. Brendon Moore
Wichita, Holy Cross .....	Rev. Scott Snow
.....	Vacant
.....	Rev. Ryan Ankersen
Wichita, St. Andrews.....	Vacant
Wichita, Risen Savior.....	Rev. Calvin Luttinen
.....	Rev. Matthew Golti
Ascension, Pratt.....	Rev. Matthew Schultz

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Richard Andrus, Rev. Thomas Brooks, Rev. Timothy Gordish, Rev. Keith Kohlmeier, Rev. Ed Mease, Rev. Timothy Meyer, Rev. Daniel Myers, Rev. Kenton Rohrberg, Rev. Dean Von Stroh, Rev. Terry Wiechman

**Commissioned Advisory** – Betty Amey, Brian Amey, Pamela Amey, Karen Boettcher, Teddy Boettcher, Janet Dobler, Morgan Dunst, Hannah Elsey, Mike Freed, Carol Garrett, Amy Goltl, Ted Helmer, Jacob Kelly, Susan Kleber, Rodney Lenz, Tina Lenz, Karen Maxson, Kay Meyer, Jenny Myers, Katie Nelson, David Ochs, Lisa Ochs, Doreen Scheuerman, Kent Stephens, Gwen Thomas, Terri Vanwey, Molly-Ann Wells, Karen Wilgers, Gregg Wolgast, Sandra Yount

**Circuit 11 – Wichita South**

Argonia, Zion .....	Rev. David Ersland
Arkansas City, Redeemer .....	Rev. Christopher Warneke
Cheney, St. Paul .....	Rev. Anthony Masinelli
Derby, Faith .....	Rev. Thomas Johnson
Wellington, Calvary .....	Vacant
Wichita, Bethany .....	Rev. Nick Cordt
Wichita, Grace .....	Closed 11/20/2022
Wichita, Immanuel .....	Rev. Mark Lovett
Wichita, Trinity .....	Rev. Aaron Filipek
.....	Rev. Daniel Metzger
Winfield, Trinity .....	Rev. Seth Meyer
Medicine Lodge, Trinity .....	Vacant
Nashville, St. John .....	Vacant
Preston, St. Paul .....	Rev. Michael Schotte

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Marvin Barz, Rev. Michael Brockman, Rev. Dean Christ, Rev. Ronald Gloe, Rev. Al Hoger, Rev. Gilbert Holstein, Rev. Merlyn Lohrke, Rev. Rocky Mease, Rev. Clifford Winter

**Commissioned Advisory** – Christopher Dehning, Deb Doesken, Rebecca Hillman, Charles Jedele, Pauline Jedele, Heather Meyer, Roland Mueller, Ronald Richter, Mark Schotte, Cheryl Voss, Sarah Warneke

**REGION IV (Circuits 13, 15, 16)**

**Circuit 13 – Lincoln-Hays**

Downs, Zion .....	Rev. Sherman Stenson
Ellsworth, Immanuel .....	Rev. Luke Brown
Ellsworth, St. Paul .....	Vacant
Hunter, Trinity .....	Rev. Matthew Schneider
Lincoln, St. John .....	Rev. Don Haselhuhn
Lincoln, St. Paul .....	Rev. Don Haselhuhn
Sylvan Grove, Bethlehem .....	Rev. Christopher Craig
Claffin, Zion .....	Rev. Daniel Harders
Great Bend, Our Saviour .....	Vacant
Hoisington, Concordia .....	Rev. Gary Wolf
Holyrood, St. Peter .....	Rev. Daniel Harders
Larned, Grace .....	Vacant

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Lloyd Sprick

**Circuit 15 – Colby**

Atwood, Redeemer .....	Vacant
Colby, Trinity .....	Rev. Philip Hoppe
Hoxie, Immanuel .....	Vacant
Kensington, First St. John .....	Rev. David Hutson
Norton, Immanuel .....	Rev. Matthew Goehring
Oakley, Immanuel .....	Vacant
Oberlin, St. John .....	Vacant
Phillipsburg, First .....	Vacant
Hill City, Grace .....	Vacant
Hays, Messiah .....	Vacant
Natoma, Peace .....	Rev. Michael Schmidt
Plainville, First .....	Rev. Michael Schmidt

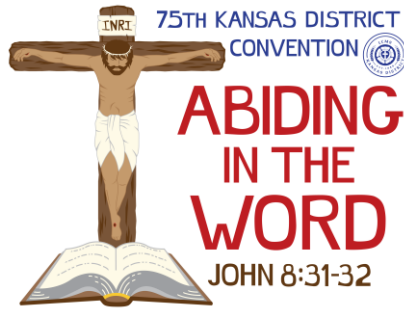
**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Joel Hiesterman, Rev. Larry McDermott

**Circuit 16 – Garden City**

Lakin, Immanuel .....	Rev. Michael Hageman
.....	Rev. Magdiel Fajardo
Dodge City, Holy Cross .....	Rev. Robert Allmann
Garden City, Trinity .....	Rev. Michael Hageman
.....	Rev. Magdiel Fajardo
Jetmore, St. Paul .....	Vacant
Liberal, Grace .....	Rev. Jason Toombs
Meade, St. John .....	Rev. Mark Mozeik
Offerle, Zion .....	Rev. Stanley Palmer
Scott City, Holy Cross .....	Rev. Matthew Koterba
Ulysses, Grace .....	Rev. Michael Hageman
.....	Rev. Magdiel Fajardo
Kinsley, Our Redeemer .....	Rev. Stanley Palmer
Greensburg, Peace.....	Rev. David McCloskey
Beaver, OK, Peace .....	Rev. Jason Toombs

**Ordained Advisory** – Rev. Vance Becker, Rev. Bruce Kristalyn, Rev. Patrick (Dennis) Mason

**Commissioned Advisory** – Hillary Baez, Claire Gerrard, Sherry Moentmann



# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## DISTRICT ROSTER CHANGES

### WORKERS, CONGREGATIONS, SCHOOLS (March 2022 through March 2025)

(Names in alphabetical order)

#### ORDAINED ENTERING KANSAS DISTRICT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>DATE</u>
ALLMANN, Robert	Michigan	Holy Cross, Dodge City	11/24
ANKERSEN, Ryan	Nebraska	Holy Cross, Wichita	01/24
BECKER, Vance	Minnesota South	Emeritus	06/24
BERTRAM, Peter	Wyoming	Emeritus	06/22
BURGDORF, Zachariah	Minnesota North	Risen Savior, Basehor	11/24
CUNDIFF, Joel	Missouri	St. Paul, Leavenworth	08/24
DANDY, Jacob	CNH	Trinity, Atchison	01/25
DUDLEY, Nathan	Iowa West	St. Paul, Haven	11/22
ECKERT, Stephen	CNH	Emeritus	01/24
FAJARDO, Magdiel	PSW	TIG Partnership	08/23
FILIPEK, Aaron	North Dakota	Trinity & Grace, Wichita	09/22
FRANSON, Jon	Nebraska	St. Paul, Coffeyville	06/22
FRIES, John	South Dakota	St. Paul/Alta Vista & St. Paul/Junction City	12/22
GERDES, Christopher	Nebraska	Immanuel, Netawaka	04/23
GORDISH, Timothy	New England	Emeritus	07/23
GRAMS, Daniel	English	LCMS Kansas District	10/23
HARTLEY, William	CNH	Messiah, Emporia	08/24
HEATH, Timmothy	Florida-Georgia	Trinity, Holton	10/22
HOLLE, Brian	Southern Illinois	St. Paul/Fairview & Zion/Hiawatha	10/23
KELLOGG, Christopher	Rocky Mountain	Emeritus	11/24
KIRK, John	Nebraska	Emeritus	08/24
KIRSCHENMANN, James	Northern Illinois	Zion, Vassar	12/23
KOCH, Timothy	South Dakota	Zion, Linn	05/22
LEE, Martin	Eastern	Immanuel, Lawrence	01/20
LUTTINEN, Calvin	Southern	Risen Savior, Wichita	03/23
MASINELLI, Anthony	Rocky Mountain	St. Paul, Cheney	06/24
MOORE, Brendon	Florida-Georgia	Ascension, Wichita	07/24
MOZEIK, Mark	Oklahoma	St. John, Meade	07/23
MUELLER, Jacob	Missouri	Hope, Shawnee	06/24
SCHULTZ, Matthew	Atlantic	Ascension, Pratt	07/22
SKURLA, Dale	PSW	St. Paul, Leavenworth	01/25
SLATER, Troy	Missouri	Immanuel, Canton	06/22
STENSON, Sherman	Texas	Zion, Downs	08/24
SYMM, David	Texas	Emeritus	09/22
WILCOXEN, Timothy	Southern Illinois	Trinity, Burlington	04/24
WOELMER, James	Texas	Christ, Manhattan	08/23
WRIGHT, Boyd	Iowa East	St. John, Topeka	10/22

#### SEMINARY CANDIDATES CALLED TO KANSAS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>DATE</u>
BELCHER, Nicholas	Ft. Wayne	St. John, Topeka	07/23
CARNEY, Michael	Colloquy	Trinity, Atchison	01/23

GASCHLER, Mark	Ft. Wayne	Immanuel, Linn	06/23
GOEHRING, Matthew	Ft. Wayne	Immanuel, Norton	08/22
GOLTL, Matthew	St. Louis	Risen Savior, Wichita	06/24
GOODROAD, Joseph	Fort Wayne	Grace, Iola	06/24
JOHNSON, Frank	St. Louis SMP	Zion, Hillsboro	07/24
KASTNER, John	Fort Wayne	Beautiful Savior, Olathe	07/24
LANE, William	St. Louis SMP	Faith, Topeka	08/24
MARTINEZ, Daniel	Colloquy	Trinity, Mission & Shawnee	07/23
MELIN, Jeron	St. Louis	Herington Partnership	11/23
NELSON, Nathan	St. Louis	Trinity, Leavenworth	07/24
WARNEKE, Christopher	Fort Wayne	Redeemer, Arkansas City	07/24

**ORDAINED TRANSFERRING FROM KANSAS DISTRICT**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>TO</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
BARLAU, Joseph	Minnesota South	09/24
BOEHLKE, Craig	Southeastern	01/25
BOHLMANN, Matthew	Missouri	02/23
BOYLE, Geoffrey	Indiana	06/22
BRUSS, Jon	Indiana	06/22
COCKRAN, Kurt	Indiana	03/23
COOK, Philip	Missouri	05/24
CRANE, Jeffrey	Southern Illinois	12/23
DURANCE, Matthew	Michigan	05/22
EMSHOFF, Keith	Missouri	06/24
FANGMEYER, Dennis	Indiana	09/23
FRANK, Steven	Minnesota North	08/24
GALCHUTT, Daniel	Missouri	04/23
HANNEMAN, Aaron	Nebraska	09/23
HARMON, Thomas	Nebraska	04/24
HARTLEY, William	Pacific Southwest	12/24
HERALD, David	Iowa West	09/23
HOSCH, Edward	California-Nevada-Hawaii	07/24
KEINBAUM, Santiago	Florida-Georgia	05/23
KERNS, Devin	Southeastern	11/22
LEE, Martin	Pacific Southwest	12/20
LEISTE, Robert	Florida-Georgia	07/24
MALLARDI, Rocco	Missouri	10/22
MASSEY, Steven	Florida-Georgia	12/23
MICHEEL, Benjamin	Michigan	08/24
PECK, Kent	Iowa East	03/22
PENIKIS, Michael	North Wisconsin	09/24
PETERSON, James	Nebraska	03/22
PETERSON, Russell	SELC	01/25
PRESLEY, Thomas	Southern	07/24
RATHER, Ronald	South Wisconsin	12/22
RIKLI, Richard	Central Illinois	05/23
SCHECK, Jonathan	Southeastern	06/23
SCHERBARTH, Chet	Southern	08/23
SCHNELLE, Aaron	Florida-Georgia	10/22
SIEBERT, Benjamin	Nebraska	08/22
SWEYKO, Stephen	New England	11/23
VAN DUZER, Thomas	Texas	02/23
VOGTS, Kevin	Missouri	01/23
WENZELBURGER, Mark	Mid-South	06/22
WURDEMAN, Glen	Nebraska	12/24
WYSSMANN, Kevin	Pacific Southwest	05/23

**ORDAINED POSITION CHANGES WITHIN KANSAS DISTRICT**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>TO</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
BAKER, Sean	Associate	Sole	03/24
BOHLMANN, Matthew	Holy Cross, Wichita	Candidate	02/23
BROCKMAN, Michael	Immanuel, Hoxie and Oakley	Concordia Academy	08/23
BROWNLIE, Jerome	Emeritus	Trinity, Holton	12/23
COOK, Theodore	Dual Parish – Zion, Pittsburg	Trinity, Parsons	12/24
CORDT, Nicholas	Risen Savior, Wichita	Bethany, Wichita	03/23
CROUCHER, Mark	Candidate	Bethany, Overland Park	08/23
CUNDIFF, Joel	St. Paul, Leavenworth	Candidate	10/24
HASELHUHN, Don	Trinity, Burlington	St. John & St. Paul, Lincoln	01/23
HOFMANN, Michael	St. Paul, Clay Center	Trinity, Girard	04/23
JACOB, Luke	Associate Pastor	Senior Pastor	01/24
JAHNKE, Randall	Holy Cross, Dodge City	Bethlehem/Greenleaf & St. Peter/Barnes	06/24
KEINBAUM, Santiago	TIG Partnership	Candidate	05/23
KERNS, Devin	St. John, Topeka	Candidate	03/22
KUNZE, Jeffrey	Christ, Overland Park	Candidate	01/25
LEISTE, Robert	Zion, Linn	Hope, Shawnee	07/22
MASSEY, Steven	Lead a Child	Candidate	12/23
MEASE, Rocky	St. Paul, Coffeyville	Fairmount Ministries	05/22
MEASE, Rocky	Fairmount Ministries	Trinity, Hanover	09/23
PENIKIS, Michael	Hope, Shawnee	Candidate	12/23
REED, Marty	Associate Pastor	Senior Pastor	01/24
SCHULTZ, Christian	St. Paul, Alta Vista	Candidate	05/22
TOOMBS, Jason	Zion, Downs	Grace/Liberal & Peace/Beaver	07/23
WANGERIN, Timothy	Emeritus	Christ the King, Salina	12/24
WEHLING, Andrew	Grace, Liberal	Immanuel, Lawrence	05/22
WOELMER, Joshua	Zion, Vassar	Trinity, Paola	06/23
WOOD, Mark	Our Saviour, Kansas City	Trinity, Mission/Shawnee	11/24
WURDEMAN, Glen	Chaplain, US Army	Candidate	05/24

**ORDAINED RETIRED**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
BOEHLKE, Craig	Goddard	05/24
CRAWFORD, King	Manhattan	05/23
DUNAWAY, Michael	Hiawatha	01/23
FANGMEYER, Dennis	Nashville	09/23
FRITZ, Rodney	Hanover	09/23
HARMON, Thomas	Wichita	01/24
KRISTALYN, Bruce	Garden City	07/24
MEASE, Rocky	Derby	08/24
MEASE, Van (Ed)	Park City	02/25
MYERS, Daniel	Wichita	06/24
RIKLI, Richard	Linn	05/23
SCHULZ, Mark	Overland Park	02/24
VOGTS, Kevin	Kansas City	01/23
WINGFIELD, William	Wellington	07/24
WYSSMANN, Kevin	Olathe	05/23

**ORDAINED CALLED TO ETERNAL REST**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
BOEHNKE, Roland	Overland Park	11/17/2022
BOYER, Richard	Bel Aire	04/17/2024
DASSOW, Garry	Hoisington	05/17/2023
GERDES, Christopher	Nebraska	08/05/2024
HATHAWAY, Roderick	Winfield	09/26/2024
HEATH, Timmothy	Holton	08/28/2023
HOLTORF, Gene	Linn	04/02/2024

MATTHEWS, Darrell	Spring Hill	05/07/2024
MAYES, James	Wamego	09/09/2024
MOCK, George	Newton	02/13/2024
NIERMANN, John	Kansas City	09/28/2023
POOL, John	Wichita	08/29/2023
STOHS, Eugene	Shawnee	03/13/2025
STREUFERT, Victor	Lindsborg	03/24/2023
ZIEGLER, Robert	Atchison	04/02/2023

**ORDAINED RESIGNED/REMOVED FROM ROSTER**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>DATE</u>
KAMMRATH, Luke	Kansas City, KS	11/24

**COMMISSIONED ENTERING KANSAS DISTRICT**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>DATE</u>
BEGLEY, Janet	Missouri	Hope, Shawnee	08/23
BIRNBAUM, David	Oklahoma	Trinity, Atchison	08/24
BIRNBAUM, Julia	Oklahoma	Candidate	08/24
BURKE, Kimberly	Rocky Mountain	Linn Lutheran Association	08/22
ERICKSON, Bradley	Rocky Mountain	Good Shepherd, Marysville	08/23
GOLTL, Amy	Missouri	Holy Cross, Wichita	08/24
GRAMS, Susan	Michigan	Candidate	09/24
HOFFMAN, Patricia	Pacific Southwest	Emeritus	01/23
JENNINGS, Jennifer	Pacific Southwest	Candidate	02/22
KRAMER, Sybil	Northern Illinois	Emeritus	04/24
LENZ, Rodney	South Dakota	Candidate	04/22
LENZ, Tina	South Dakota	Emeritus	04/22
MAXSON, Janice	Rocky Mountain	Holy Cross, Wichita	08/22
MEYER, Kay	Pacific Southwest	Candidate	12/22
OLSON, Morris	Northern Illinois	Emeritus	03/23
PRANN, William	PSW	St. Luke, Manhattan	01/24
ROETTGER, Andrea	Missouri	Bethany, Overland Park	01/24
ROHLFING, Terry	Central Illinois	Emeritus	03/23
SCHKADE, Kristi	Nebraska	Hope, Shawnee	08/22
SCHULTZ, Jolene	Missouri	Emeritus	08/23
STEPHENS, Kent	Rocky Mountain	Emeritus	02/24
WARNEKE, Sarah	Indiana	Trinity, Winfield	08/22

**COMMISSIONED GRADUATES CALLED TO KANSAS DISTRICT**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>DATE</u>
BOTT, Renae	Colloquy	Linn Lutheran Association	08/23
CHRISTIAN, Hannah	Irvine	Hope, Shawnee	04/23
DELANCY, Lauran	Mequon	Beautiful Savior, Olathe	04/24
ECKHOFF, Sarah	Irvine	Hope, Shawnee	02/24
ELSEY, Hannah	Irvine	Faith, Topeka	07/23
ERNSTMAYER, Kayla	Seward	Hope, Shawnee	08/22
GERRARD, Claire	Fort Wayne	Trinity, Garden City	07/24
JOHNSON, Anna	Seward	Bethany, Overland Park	08/24
KLIPP, Allison	Seward	Good Shepherd, Marysville	08/23
MEYER, Heather	Seward	Good Shepherd, Marysville	08/22
NELSON, Ashley	St. Louis	St. Paul, Leavenworth	07/24

**COMMISSIONED TRANSFERRING FROM KANSAS DISTRICT**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>DATE</u>
BARLAU, Amanda	Minnesota South	09/24
BUCHHOLZ, Paige	Missouri	06/23
ECKHOFF, Sarah	Missouri	06/24
EDGINGTON, Paige	Nebraska	07/23

FRANCIK, Christopher	Michigan	06/22
GRAY, Robyn	Iowa East	09/22
HELLYER, Lisa	Missouri	02/23
HERALD, Elizabeth	Iowa West	09/23
LAVRENZ, Cynthia	Iowa East	01/23
MALLARDI, Janine	Missouri	10/22
MEYER, Robyn	North Wisconsin	07/22
PAULS, Rebecca	Texas	05/24
RINDT, David	Nebraska	07/23
ROJAS DE ROBLES, Alejandra	Florida-Georgia	05/23
SCHOTTE, Susan	Nebraska	07/23
SCHULTZ, Mary	North Wisconsin	08/22
SPRENGELER, Denise	Minnesota South	05/22
TAYLOR, Emma	Pacific Southwest	06/22
TAYLOR, Isaac	Pacific Southwest	06/22
VENTEICHER, Benjamin	Nebraska	06/23

### **COMMISSIONED POSITION CHANGES WITHIN KANSAS**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>TO</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
ADCOCK, Kelsey	Hope, Shawnee	Candidate	05/22
BARTELS, Kathy	Topeka Lutheran	Candidate	07/22
DANLEY, Korey	Christ, Overland Park	Candidate	08/24
ELSEY, Hannah	Faith, Topeka	Fairmount Ministries	08/24
GILLESPIE, Angel	First, Paola	Candidate	01/22
GRASS, Erin	Topeka Lutheran	St. John Classical	09/23
GRASS, Joshua	Topeka Lutheran	Candidate	05/23
GRAY, Robyn	St. John, Alma	Candidate	06/22
HARRIES, Terry	Good Shepherd Marysville	Candidate	07/24
KOSMICKI, Andrea	Topeka Lutheran	St. John Classical	09/23
LIMBACK, Jane	Candidate	Bethany, Overland Park	08/23
MAXSON, Karen	Holy Cross, Wichita	Candidate	07/24
MEYER, Heather	Candidate	Trinity, Winfield	08/23
NELSON, Katie	Candidate	Holy Cross, Wichita	08/23
SPRENGELER, Denise	Trinity, Leavenworth	Candidate	04/22
WARNEKE, Sarah	Trinity, Winfield	Candidate	07/23
WARNEKE, Sarah	Candidate	Trinity, Winfield	08/24
WEHLING, Miriam	Candidate	LCMS Kansas District	11/24

### **COMMISSIONED RETIRED**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
BRADSHAW, James	Topeka	01/25
BRADSHAW, Joanna	Topeka	11/23
GARRETT, Carol	Wichita	06/24
HOBUS, Steven	Meridan	06/24
LAVRENZ, Cynthia	Garden City	07/23
MCINTOSH, Kathy	Shawnee	07/22
SPRENGELER, Denise	Rockford, MI	05/23

### **COMMISSIONED CALLED TO ETERNAL REST**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
CROUCHER, Heather	Raymore, MO	03/08/2023
JOPP, Keith	Wichita	03/10/2025
WEIKAL, Norma Jean		02/05/2022

### **COMMISSIONED RESIGNED/REMOVED FROM ROSTER**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
BRUNKHARDT, Mindy	Las Vegas, NV	07/23
BURKE, Kimberly	Linn, KS	03/25



CELMER, Katrina	Shawnee, KS	09/23
DESORMEAUX, Malissa	Princeton, KS	05/22
FLATEN, Lindsey	Andover, KS	05/22
FOGELMAN, Amanda	Kansas City, KS	05/22
FORKE, Thomas	Omaha, NE	09/22
KATHMAN, Rachel	Topeka, KS	05/22
KETTLER, Lucy	Paola, KS	05/22
KUSKE, Sarah	Overland Park, KS	12/22
MAXSON, Janice	Bel Aire, KS	02/24
MILLER, Allison	Overland Park, KS	02/24
OHMIE, Karla	Wichita, KS	05/22
PEARSON, Martha	Sabetha, KS	05/22
PROCHNOW, Andrea	Valley Center, KS	05/22
ROESLER, Leah	Castle Hayne, NC	09/22
SEEL, Jennifer	Independence, KS	05/22
WILLINGHAM, David	Olathe, KS	10/22
WILLINGHAM, Kristen	Olathe, KS	04/22
WOODROW, Jennifer	Woodbury, MN	03/25

**NEW CONGREGATION or SCHOOL**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
Concordia Academy, Wichita	08/25/2022
St. John Classical School, Topeka	09/06/2023

**CONGREGATIONS or SCHOOL DISBANDED/CLOSED**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
ZION	Latimer	12/26/2021
OUR REDEEMER ELC	Hutchinson	09/09/2022
ST. PAUL PRESCHOOL	Haven	10/06/2022
GRACE	Wichita	11/20/2022
IMMANUEL	Fairview	01/01/2023
TOPEKA LUTHERAN SCHOOL	Topeka	06/30/2023
TRINITY	Garnett	01/08/2024
STILWELL (satellite site for Bethany)	Overland Park	03/18/2024

**NEW CONGREGATION PARTNERSHIPS**

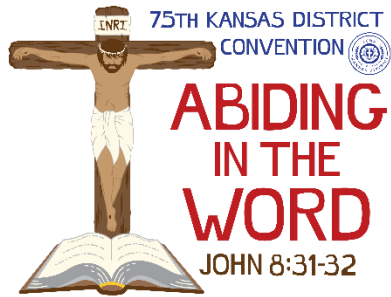
<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
IMMANUEL, OUR REDEEMER & ST. JOHN, Herington	08/29/2021
FIRST, Sabetha and ST. PAUL, Fairview	01/01/2023
ST. PAUL, Fairview and ZION, Hiawatha	04/11/2023
ZION, Pittsburg and TRINITY Parsons	12/08/2024

**CONGREGATION PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
FIRST, Sabetha and ST. PAUL, Fairview	03/19/2023
NORTHEAST KANSAS PARTNERSHIP	01/01/2023
TRINITY & GRACE, Wichita	11/20/2022
ST. JOHN, Topeka and TRINITY, McFarland	05/01/2023

**CONGREGATIONS LEAVING THE LCMS**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
ST. LUKE,	Kansas City 11/22/2024



# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## CONGREGATIONS' STATISTICAL REPORTING

### Synod Handbook 2023

#### 1.3 Synod Relationships: Congregation, National, District, Circuit

1.3.4.3 Congregations of the Synod, to enable the Synod to plan current and future ministry efforts and to lend accuracy and integrity to the Synod's delegate representation and voting processes, agree to provide annual membership and statistical information to the Synod.

Circuit #	Church	City	2021	2022	2023
101	Trinity Lutheran Church	Atchison	X	X	X
102	St. John Lutheran Church	Easton	X		X
103	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Fairview	X	X	X
104	Zion Lutheran Church	Hiawatha	X	X	X
105	Trinity Lutheran Church	Holton	X	X	X
106	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Netawaka		X	X
107	St. Matthew Lutheran Church	Nortonville		X	
108	Zion Lutheran Church	Powhattan			
109	First Lutheran Church	Sabetha	X	X	X
110	Christ Lutheran Church	Wathena		X	
201	Risen Savior Lutheran Church	Basehor	X	X	X
203	Bethel Lutheran Church	Kansas City	X	X	X
204	Faith Lutheran Church	Kansas City	X	X	X
205	Grace Lutheran Church	Kansas City	X	X	X
206	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Kansas City	X	X	X
207	Our Saviour Lutheran Church	Kansas City	X	X	X
209	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Leavenworth	X	X	X
210	Trinity Lutheran Church	Leavenworth	X	X	X
211	Trinity Family of Faith Lutheran Church	Basehor	X	X	X
301	King of Kings Lutheran Church	Gardner	X	X	X
302	Christ Lutheran Church	Overland Park	X	X	X
303	Lord of Life Lutheran Church	Leawood	X	X	X
304	Trinity Lutheran Church	Mission/Shawnee	X	X	X
305	Redeemer Lutheran Church	Olathe	X	X	X
306	Bethany Lutheran Church	Overland Park	X	X	X
307	First Lutheran Church	Paola	X	X	X
308	Trinity Lutheran Church	Paola	X	X	X
309	Hope Lutheran Church	Shawnee	X	X	X
310	Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church	Olathe	X	X	X
311	Augsburg Lutheran Church	Shawnee	X	X	X
312	Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church	Louisburg	X	X	X
401	St. John Lutheran Church	Aliceville			X

403	Trinity Lutheran Church	Burlington	X	X	X
404	Faith Lutheran Church	Emporia			
405	Messiah Lutheran Church	Emporia	X	X	X
407	Faith Lutheran Church	Ottawa	X	X	X
408	Zion Lutheran Church	Vassar	X	X	X
502	Trinity Lutheran Church	Caney	X	X	
503	Zion Lutheran Church	Chanute	X	X	
504	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Coffeyville	X	X	
505	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Erie	X	X	X
506	Trinity Lutheran Church	Fort Scott		X	X
507	Trinity Lutheran Church	Girard	X	X	X
508	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Hepler	X	X	X
509	St. Peter Lutheran Church	Humboldt	X	X	X
510	Zion Lutheran Church	Independence	X	X	
511	Grace Lutheran Church	Iola	X	X	X
512	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Oswego	X		
513	Trinity Lutheran Church	Parsons		X	X
515	Zion Lutheran Church	Pittsburg		X	X
601	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Lawrence	X	X	X
602	Redeemer Lutheran Church	Lawrence	X	X	X
603	Calvary Lutheran Church	Topeka	X	X	X
604	Christ Lutheran Church	Topeka	X	X	X
605	Faith Lutheran Church	Topeka	X	X	X
607	St. Johns Lutheran Church	Topeka	X	X	X
609	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church	Topeka	X	X	X
701	St. Peter Lutheran Church	Barnes	X	X	X
702	Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Bremen	X	X	X
703	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Bremen	X	X	X
704	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Clay Center	X	X	X
705	Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Greenleaf	X	X	X
706	Trinity Lutheran Church	Hanover	X	X	X
708	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Linn	X	X	X
709	Zion Lutheran Church	Linn	X	X	X
710	Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church	Marysville	X	X	
711	St. John Lutheran Church	Palmer	X	X	X
712	Trinity Lutheran Church	Waterville			
801	St. John Lutheran Church	Alma	X	X	X
802	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Alta Vista	X	X	X
803	St. Pauls Lutheran Church	Duluth	X	X	X
804	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Junction City		X	
805	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Junction City	X	X	X
806	St. Luke Lutheran Church	Manhattan	X	X	X
807	Trinity Lutheran Church	McFarland	X	X	X
808	Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church	Wamego	X	X	X
809	St. Luke Lutheran Church	Wheaton	X	X	X
810	Christ Lutheran Church	Manhattan	X	X	X

901	Faith Lutheran Church	Abilene	X	X	X
902	Calvary Lutheran Church	Council Grove	X	X	X
904	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Herington	X	X	X
905	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Herington	X	X	X
906	St. John Lutheran Church	Herington	X	X	X
907	Zion Lutheran Church	Hillsboro	X	X	X
909	St. John Lutheran Church	Lincolnvilve	X	X	X
910	Our Savior Lutheran Church	Marion	X	X	
911	Trinity Lutheran Church	Ramona	X	X	X
912	Grace Lutheran Church	Strong City	X	X	X
913	St. John Lutheran Church	Tampa	X	X	X
914	Zion Lutheran Church	Newton	X	X	X
1001	Peace Lutheran Church	Andover	X	X	X
1002	Christ Lutheran Church	Augusta	X	X	X
1003	Grace Lutheran Church	El Dorado	X	X	X
1005	Ascension Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	
1006	Holy Cross Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	X
1008	St. Andrews Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	X
1009	Risen Savior Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	X
1010	Ascension Lutheran Church	Pratt	X	X	X
1101	Zion Lutheran Church	Argonia	X	X	X
1102	Redeemer Lutheran Church	Arkansas City	X	X	X
1103	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Cheney	X	X	X
1104	Faith Lutheran Church	Derby	X	X	X
1105	Calvary Lutheran Church	Wellington	X	X	X
1106	Bethany Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	X
1108	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	X
1109	Trinity Lutheran Church	Wichita	X	X	X
1110	Trinity Lutheran Church	Winfield			X
1111	Trinity Lutheran Church	Medicine Lodge	X	X	X
1112	St. John Lutheran Church	Nashville	X	X	X
1113	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Preston	X	X	X
1201	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Canton	X	X	X
1202	St. Pauls Lutheran Church	Haven	X	X	X
1204	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Hutchinson		X	X
1205	Grace Lutheran Church	Lyons	X	X	X
1206	Grace Lutheran Church	McPherson	X	X	X
1208	Christ the King Lutheran Church	Salina	X	X	X
1209	Trinity Lutheran Church	Salina	X	X	X
1210	St. John Lutheran Church	Ellinwood	X	X	X
1301	Zion Lutheran Church	Downs	X	X	X
1302	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Ellsworth	X	X	X
1303	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Ellsworth	X	X	X
1306	Trinity Lutheran Church	Hunter		X	
1307	St. John Lutheran Church	Lincoln		X	X
1308	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Lincoln		X	X

1311	Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Sylvan Grove	X	X	X
1312	Zion Lutheran Church	Claflin	X	X	
1313	Our Saviour Lutheran Church	Great Bend	X	X	X
1314	Concordia Lutheran Church	Hoisington		X	X
1315	St. Peter Lutheran Church	Holyrood		X	
1316	Grace Lutheran Church	Larned		X	
1501	Redeemer Lutheran Church	Atwood	X	X	X
1502	Trinity Lutheran Church	Colby	X	X	
1503	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Hoxie	X	X	
1504	First St. John Lutheran Church	Kensington	X	X	X
1506	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Norton	X	X	X
1507	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Oakley	X	X	X
1508	St. John Lutheran Church	Oberlin	X	X	X
1509	First Lutheran Church	Phillipsburg	X	X	X
1510	Grace Lutheran Church	Hill City	X	X	X
1511	Messiah Lutheran Church	Hays	X	X	X
1512	Peace Lutheran Church	Natoma	X	X	X
1513	First Lutheran Church	Plainville	X	X	X
1603	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Lakin	X	X	X
1605	Holy Cross Lutheran Church	Dodge City	X	X	
1607	Trinity Lutheran Church	Garden City	X	X	X
1609	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Jetmore	X	X	
1610	Grace Lutheran Church	Liberal	X	X	X
1611	St. John Lutheran Church	Meade	X	X	
1612	Zion Lutheran Church	Offerle	X	X	X
1613	Holy Cross Lutheran Church	Scott City	X	X	
1615	Grace Lutheran Church	Ulysses	X	X	X
1617	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Kinsley	X	X	X
1618	Peace Lutheran Church	Greensburg	X	X	X
1619	Peace Lutheran Church	Beaver, OK		X	X

## APPROVAL OF REVISED CONGREGATIONAL CONSTITUTIONS AND BYLAWS

Constitution Committee members: Rev. Robert Grimm (Chair), Rev. David Meier, Rev. Rodney Fritz, Rev. Joshua Woelmer, Rev. Christian Schultz

The following is from the 2023 Handbook of Synod:

### 2.4 Continued Eligibility of Congregations

- 2.4.1 A congregation desiring to retain membership in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall continue to have a constitution and bylaws approved by the Synod.
- (a) A member congregation which desires to revise its constitution and/or bylaws shall, as a condition of continued eligibility as a member of the Synod, submit a proposed revised constitution and/or revised bylaws to the district president.
  - (b) The district president shall refer such to the district constitution committee for review to ascertain that the provisions are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures, the Confessions, and the teachings and practices of the Synod.
  - (c) Upon advice of the constitution committee and recommendation by the district president, the district board of directors shall determine if the changes are acceptable to the Synod.
  - (d) Upon favorable action by the district board of directors, the congregation shall be notified that the changes are acceptable to the Synod, and the congregation may proceed with formal adoption of the revised constitution and/or bylaws and remain a member in good standing of the Synod.
  - (e) Upon formal adoption of the proposed revised constitution and/or bylaws, the congregation shall provide to the district a dated copy of the action taken, accompanied by a copy of the dated revised constitution and bylaws.
  - (f) Until a congregation formally adopts a revised constitution and/or bylaws using this process, the Synod shall consider the existing constitution and bylaws to be in effect for all purposes.
- 2.4.2 A copy of the signed constitution shall be forwarded to the secretary of the district. Acceptance by the district board of directors shall be reported to the next regularly scheduled convention of the district.

To fulfill the last statement, the following is a list of the congregational constitution and bylaw revisions that have been approved by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors in the last triennium.

#### 2022

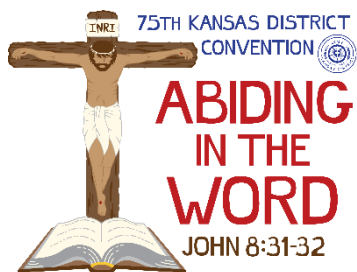
Immanuel, Canton  
Redeemer, Lawrence  
Grace, Liberal  
St. John, Palmer  
First, Paola  
Trinity, Salina  
St. John, Topeka  
Mt. Calvary, Wamego

#### 2023

St. Paul, Ellsworth  
St. Paul, Haven  
Immanuel, Hepler  
Our Redeemer, Herington  
St. Peter, Humboldt  
Immanuel, Lawrence  
Immanuel, Linn  
Bethany, Overland Park  
Trinity, Salina  
Augsburg, Shawnee  
Christ, Topeka

#### 2024

Risen Savior, Basehor  
Immanuel, Bremen  
Zion, Downs  
Trinity, Hanover  
Zion, Hiawatha  
Trinity, Leavenworth  
Peace, Natoma  
First, Phillipsburg  
Grace, Ulysses  
Calvary, Wellington



# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

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**District President  
Rev. Justin Panzer**

### Introduction

As the LCMS Kansas District gathers in convention for the 75th time since its founding in 1888, we do so under the theme “Abiding in the Word,” based on John 8:31-32: *“If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

Listen to what Martin Luther writes about our need for the Word of God:

“Let me tell you this. Even though you know the Word perfectly and have already mastered everything, you are daily under the dominion of the devil, and he does not rest day or night in seeking to take you unawares and to kindle in your heart unbelief and wicked thoughts against these three (first three Commandments) and all the other commandments. Therefore, you must constantly keep God’s Word in your heart, on your lips, and in your ears. For where the heart stands idle and the Word is not heard, the devil breaks in and does his damage before we realize it. On the other hand, when we seriously ponder the Word, hear it, and put it to use, such is its power that it never departs without fruit. It always awakens new understanding, pleasure, and devotion, and it constantly creates clean hearts and minds. For this Word is not idle or dead, but effective and living. Even if no other benefit or need drove us to the Word, yet everyone should be motivated by the realization that through the Word the devil is cast out and put to flight, this commandment is fulfilled, and God is more pleased than by any hypocrisy, no matter how brilliant.” *Large Catechism 100-102*

We rejoice as the baptized, spiritual priests of Christ in all that we have shared during this past triennium, and we look forward to building on this emphasis as we “Abide in the Word” during the next triennium.

### Follow-Through from the 2022 Kansas District Convention

A key part of reviewing and celebrating our life together as “Living as the Baptized” during the past triennium is to survey the key resolutions that were adopted by the 2022 Kansas District Convention, through which the Kansas District leadership was given a charge for the triennium.

**2018 KSD Omnibus Resolution A – To Move the Kansas District Convention to April (Overture 18-03-12a):** In the transition from DP Peter Lange to DP Justin Panzer in August 2019, this action was missed. After many conversations with the Kansas District President’s Council, District Staff, and the Board of Directors, the Board passed Resolution 23A-06-05 to keep the Convention during the month of June.

**2022 KSD Omnibus Resolution A – To Decrease the Term Limit of the Office of the District President from 4 Terms (12 years) to 3 Terms (9 Years) (Overture 22-03-07):** After conversations at the floor committee hearing in 2022 and with the district pastors and the Board of Directors, the overwhelming consensus is to have every elected position serve the same number of terms for the sake of continuity. The delegates will be asked to pass a bylaw change so that all elected positions can serve a maximum 4, 3-year terms.

**2022 KSD Resolution 22-01-01 – To Prioritize Living as the Baptized as a Mission and Ministry Focus for the 2022-2025 Triennium:** Our daily calling is to live out our faith as Christ’s baptized, royal priesthood. The four themes have been: “Abiding in the Word”; “Connecting in Christ”; “Equipping the Saints”; and “Engaging in God’s Mission.”

**2022 KSD Resolution 22-01-02 – To Encourage LCMS Kansans to Vote “Yes” for the Value Them Both Amendment:** This vote failed to pass on August 2, 2022. While we are discouraged by the outcome, we must still joyfully proclaim and confess that all human life is sacred from “womb to the tomb.” Our congregations and schools continue to support local pregnancy centers. Many of them have also received grants from LCMS Life Ministry in the “Million Dollar Life Match.” All are encouraged to begin “Life Chapters” and actively participate in “Lutherans for Life.”

**2022 KSD Resolution 22-01-05 – To Reject Bigotry and Advance the Gospel:** We reject any doctrine that teaches that one’s ethnicity, ancestry, or nationality are inherently superior to the ethnicity, ancestry, or nationality of another. We reject any doctrine that teaches that any individual is inherently racist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously, because of his or her ethnicity, ancestry, or nationality. We promote Christ’s teaching that we love our neighbors and reject the world view presented by Nihilism, Critical Race Theory, and similar theories that are contrary to Scripture and counterproductive to true reconciliation of the one human race created in God’s image.





24. Partnership with the LCMS Foundation for planned giving services
25. Partnership with the *Alliance for Defending Freedom (ADF)*

### **Our Calling in the New Triennium**

Looking ahead to the next triennium (2025-2028), as the Lord grants opportunity, it is my prayer to lead the Kansas District forward by continuing with our theme of “Living as the Baptized” (1 Peter 2:9-10) with a special emphasis on “Abiding in the Word” (John 8:31-32). The baptized are built up and strengthened in the faith when they are actively in the Word of God and receiving His Sacrament. Fed and nourished in Christ, faith now expresses itself to others in word and deed.

“You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” Those beautiful words of Jesus come to us in John 8:32. The truth is we are set in the bondage of sin. We are conceived into sin. All our works are like filthy rags. There is nothing good that lives in us. Sinners need truth spoken to them. Jesus is God’s truth – the truth that sets us free! Jesus says in John 14:6, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” What a claim and promise that our dear Lord gives to us. By faith, the truth embraced by Christians and proclaimed by the Church centers in a person as God’s final and saving promise to each of us.

Jesus is the Son of God in the flesh, crucified on the cross for our sins and bodily raised from the dead on the Third Day. Jesus is the One who brings to us true life, joyous life in God’s constant presence, now and eternally. Jesus brings to us the very peace and mercy of God that we desperately need.

The baptized “abide in the word” as we are gathered at the pulpit, font, and altar to receive the gifts of Christ in Word and Sacrament. Faith grasps the forgiveness of sins, given as a gift for Christ’s sake and is actively proclaimed, taught, and shared with others.

### **Conclusion**

The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is 155 congregations, 16 parochial schools, 41 preschools, 208 ordained ministers, 188 commissioned ministers, and approximately 43,000 baptized people of God who gather around altars, pulpits, and fonts where Jesus Christ meets us until the end of the age, and where His saving Gospel is proclaimed clearly according to the confession of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. This is all so that our own souls as well as many souls that are not yet part of this fold (John 10:16) may be ushered eternally into the courts of heaven.

As your servant leaders of the LCMS Kansas District, our **mission** is to support and encourage the members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His Church.

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

### **First Vice-President, Region 2**

**Rev. Alan Stahlecker**

It has been a joy and privilege to serve as Region 2 Vice-President for the past triennium, covering Circuits 7, 8, 9 and 12 in north central and central Kansas. It is an honor to serve this region and to work alongside and observe the dedicated and faithful work of many talented individuals who desire to serve our Lord. God has richly blessed His church with many faithful professional church workers and talented and faithful laypersons to carry out His work of the Gospel in this little part of His Kingdom.

During this past triennium I have sought to faithfully attend the quarterly meetings of the President’s Council and our District’s Board of Directors, along with the associated meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Stewardship. I also serve on the Retreat Center Task Force.

It has been a joy and privilege to serve on the Board of Stewardship alongside Mark Wolters, Ben Venteicher, Rachel Goodpasture, Rev. Dan Galchutt, Rev. Daniel Grams, Jeffrey Maltz and Heather Williams. It has been a privilege to work with such talented people in the District office in seeking to lead the District to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to the LCMS Kansas District by congregations and individuals.

It has been a joy and privilege to attend Circuit Winkels (7, 8, 9, & 12) within Region 2 on an annual basis, while also attending installations that have taken place within the region, when it is possible for me to do so. It was a great joy and privilege to make official visitations on behalf of President Panzer to the congregations served by the Circuit Visitors in Region 2. In dealing with matters within Region 2, I have assisted President Panzer when he has requested it.

It has been my joy and privilege to serve with the pastors, church workers and congregations of the District as we faithfully “Abide in His Word” by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Peace be with you!

**Second Vice-President, Region 1**  
**Rev. Dr. Mark Schulz**

It has been my privilege to serve as the Region 1 Vice-President of the LCMS Kansas District for the past seven years. Region 1 comprises six circuits in the northeast part of the District (Circuits 1, 2, 3N, 3S, 4, and 6). Seven of the eight largest communities in Kansas are in Region 1, yet there are also a number of small towns and rural areas as well. These varied ministry settings are reflected in various ministries and ministry strategies within the region.

A primary focus during the past triennium has been partnerships in a variety of forms. Working with Assistant to the President Rev. Daniel Grams and his predecessor, Rev. Dan Galchutt, congregations in rural and small-town areas have been encouraged when appropriate to develop partnerships through which a pastor is shared by two or more congregations so that God may continue to abide with His people through regular Word and Sacrament ministry.

Partnerships have also been discussed and in one case led to implementation of the traditional "mother/daughter" church planting model with Beautiful Savior, Olathe, and Light of the World, DeSoto.

Another example of partnerships is in the area of Hispanic ministry. With District financial support, Rev. Daniel Jordan Martinez is serving as a worker-priest in the Argentine neighborhood of Kansas City, KS under the supervision of the pastoral staff at Trinity, Mission and Shawnee. This partnership is also connected to a more comprehensive plan for Hispanic ministry throughout the Kansas City metro that involves the Missouri District.

May these partnerships in the Gospel bring much joy and bear much fruit for Christ's church (Philippians 1:3-11).

**Third Vice-President, Region 3**  
**Rev. Michael Schotte**

Having been elected to serve as Kansas District Region 3 Vice-President, it has been a privilege to serve in the duties assigned. Regular attendance at Kansas District meetings has given me a greater understanding of district functions and the responsibilities of office workers, committees and board members. Part of my assignment has been to serve on the Board of Education and Youth.

There are three circuits that make up Region 3 – Circuits 5, 10, and 11. In the past triennium, I completed a formal visitation with Circuit 5 Visitor, Rev. Ted Cook at Zion Lutheran Church in Pittsburg, Kansas, during which lay members from Zion, Pittsburg, Trinity, Parsons, and St. Paul, Oswego were invited and attended. I thank them for hosting this visitation and for sharing conversation and concerns.

Circuits 10 and 11 continue to meet jointly in the months from September - May. Being in Circuit 11, I have been able regularly to attend these Circuit meetings, hear reports from Circuit Visitors, Rev. Michael Bingenheimer (10) and Rev. Mark Lovett (11), and share reports from the Kansas District with the pastors present.

As the Church in Kansas proclaims Jesus Christ, let us be “standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel” (Philippians 1:27). Let us hold fast to the Holy Scriptures, the creeds, confessions, and catechisms that have been handed down to us. “Abiding in the Word” (John 8:31-32), we faithfully behold Jesus the Savior and proclaim His grace.

**Fourth Vice-President, Region 4**  
**Rev. Michael Hageman**

Region 4 consists mostly of western Kansas which includes Circuits 13, 15 and 16. This area is served by 36 congregations, and three pre-schools.

This past triennium “Living as the Baptized” was the focus. Our congregations continued to place the highest importance on the proclamation of Word and Sacrament. This was evident as many of our churches continued to develop ways to work with one another in partnerships. As transitions happened, many of our pastors continued to be faithful in carrying out this “Gospel” work by traveling many miles to be sure the people of God received Christ’s gifts regularly.

Congregations have expressed feeling worn out and discouraged due to the challenges they face in today's culture, which has affected their church community. These challenges are overwhelming and yet by the grace of God these congregations continue to remain faithful.

Into the next triennium, there are many opportunities that Region 4 will have the honor to focus upon. These opportunities are connected to the Kansas District's Convention theme, "Abiding in the Word." They may be summed up by the following: a faithful stewardship in the way we carry out God's Mission with our God-given resources, a closer look at our changing culture and makeup of our towns with a desire and plan to share God's loving Word with them, and using creative methods in order that Lutheran Christian education can serve as a means by which we make disciples for life.

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## **Circuit Visitor Reports *(where congregations have submitted them)***

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### **Region I**

#### **Circuit 1 - Rev. Ian Kinney, Circuit Visitor**

Circuit 1 is served by Rev. Ian Kinney as Circuit Visitor. Her congregations include Trinity, Atchison; St. John's, Easton; St. Paul, Fairview; Zion, Hiawatha; Trinity, Holton; Immanuel, Netawaka; St. Matthew, Nortonville; Zion, Powhattan; First, Sabetha and Christ, Wathena.

Circuit 1 has experienced the death of three pastors, the dissolution of the Northeast Kansas Partnership, the closing of Immanuel, Fairview, and the installation of three new pastors. The circuit has adopted a new agenda for Winkels, in which various pastors in the circuit prepare and present on topics exegetical, practical, and dogmatic. In the changes and chances of life experienced by Circuit 1, the Lord still provides His Holy Word and blessed Sacrament.

#### **1-1 Trinity Lutheran Church & School, Atchison**

2024 was a busy year. This was our first full calendar year following the death of Trinity's former pastor who served here 55 years. The year began with the installation of Rev. Marty Reed as interim senior pastor. Near the end of summer, the Call Committee (made up of the Board of Elders) began preparing to call Trinity's next senior pastor. After reading through the documents provided by the district and ranking the candidates, and after our first call was declined, Rev. Jacob Dandy accepted God's Call to be our next senior pastor. His installation was January 12, 2025.

During the interim, Trinity continued to carry out Word and Sacrament ministry and the many activities supporting it. We installed a new principal, David Birnbaum, in our Lutheran school. Enrollment remains steady. Our evangelism teams continue calling in our community. As already stated, our elders focused their time and energy on the pastoral call, but I fully expect they will resume elder calling under the leadership of Rev. Dandy. We had two new member classes this year and welcomed five new adult members. We also hosted a circuit-wide workshop on marriage and a congregational workshop on Planned Giving. Like many congregations, we are behind in giving toward our budget, and attendance is below what it was pre-COVID. Still, giving remains strong and attendance has not declined significantly when compared to what it was before Rev. Ziegler's death. God is good and He continues to guide, provide, and bless us as a congregation.

#### **1-2 St. John's Lutheran Church, Easton**

No report submitted.

#### **1-3 St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool, Fairview & (1-4) Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha**

These two congregations were part of the Northeast Kansas Partnership until its dissolution in 2023. They were served by Rev. Michael Dunaway who is now retired and Rev. Ian Kinney who is now the pastor of First Lutheran, Sabetha. Following the dissolution, they join in a dual parish and called Rev. Brian Holle. Rev. Holle is actively serving these two congregations.

#### **1-5 Trinity Lutheran Church, Holton**

Trinity Lutheran Church in Holton suffered the loss of her pastor, Rev. Timmothy Heath, and is now served by Rev. Jerry Brownlee. Trinity experienced some growth in worship over the last year. At the beginning of the year worship attendance was around 45 and increased to 60+ by the end of the year. Four young men were confirmed in May and there was one baptism. An adult information class started for three people in the fall. The church financially ended the year with a surplus and had some infrastructure updates such as a monitor, camera, sound system, and a new storage shed.

### **1-6 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Netawaka**

Immanuel Lutheran Church in Netawaka was without a regular pastor and then received Rev. Christopher Gerdes. Unfortunately, Immanuel also lost Rev. Gerdes as well to his untimely suicide. Immanuel is now being served in vacancy by Rev. Ian Kinney. There is the hope of receiving help from a vicar based out of First Lutheran Church in Sabetha.

### **1-7 St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Nortonville**

St. Matthew is served by Rev. Richard Lally. The congregation has had regular attendance and stable financials.

### **1-8 Zion Lutheran Church, Powhattan**

No report submitted.

### **1-9 First Lutheran Church & Preschool, Sabetha**

First Lutheran Church in Sabetha was involved in the Northeast Kansas Partnership until its dissolution in 2023. The congregation entered into a short-term dual parish with St. Paul, Fairview, until St. Paul entered into a dual parish with Zion, Hiawatha. As of Easter 2023, First Lutheran is a sole parish with a sole pastor under the service of Rev. Ian Kinney. First has participated in hosting a summer vicar for two years and is presently applying for the full-year vicarage program. First has been blessed with numerical growth and financial stability.

### **1-10 Christ Lutheran Church, Wathena**

No report submitted.

## **Circuit 2 - Rev. Jason Boetcher, Circuit Visitor**

### **2-1 Risen Savior Lutheran Church & Classical School, Basehor**

In 2023, Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Basehor celebrated its 15th year since the merger of two very small parishes. Every single year membership grows, all by God's grace. After years of a pastor and vicar, it has two pastors serving on staff. The Risen Savior Classical Academy, K-12th grade for Homeschool families, continues to grow in its seventh year. The Risen Savior Cemetery is now 10 years old. Matins takes place every weekday and Divine Services have been added on Saturday evening.

### **2-3 Bethel Lutheran Church, Kansas City & (2-4) Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City & (2-5) Grace Lutheran Church, Kansas City & (2-6) Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kansas City**

In 2023, Rev. Ken Nettling retired but continues to serve these congregations in retirement. They meet in-person on the 1st and 3rd weekends; Saturdays at Bethel at 4 p.m., Sundays at Grace at 9 a.m., Immanuel at 10 a.m., and Faith at 11 a.m. On the alternate weekends the churches gather together for "phone church" with all four congregations calling in.

### **2-7 Our Saviour Lutheran Church & Preschool, Kansas City**

Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Kansas City welcomed 14 new members and had several baptisms and confirmations. The congregation is guided by four purposes laid out by the pastor: Missions, Mercy, Fellowship, and Worship & Hospitality. The Education Team started a Table Talks program once a month on Sunday mornings. Guided by a Lutheran Hour Ministries devotion, small groups gather for discussion and become comfortable sharing faith life with each other. A Men's Fellowship group restarted with monthly breakfast meetings and Bible study. Two LWML Circles continued to meet monthly, study and support missions in the Kansas District, around the U.S. and abroad.

The congregation hosted a meal and worship service on Ascension Day for the Kansas City Young Adult Lutherans group. They also hosted the annual conference for Lutheran early childhood educators in Kansas. Our Saviour participated in *Faith at Work* by volunteering at the local food bank and also packing lunch kits for Metro Lutheran Ministry, a Kansas City-based social service agency. The church continues to offer a Preschool and a food pantry for their community. They recently conducted a self-assessment as part of their call process, as the pastor answered a divine call to a different congregation. Thanks be to God for His mercies throughout these past three years.

### **2-9 St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Leavenworth**

Over the past three years, much has changed at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Leavenworth! They had only recently installed a new Principal, Cindy Hammons, prior to the last Convention, and just recently experienced the retirement of the senior pastor, Rev. Ed Mease (after him serving 30.5 years). In preparation for his retirement, St. Paul had called an associate pastor, who arrived and was installed in mid-August 2024; his subsequent resignation took place the first week in October. Also, during this past summer St. Paul called a Deaconess graduate, Ashley Nelson, from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. She was installed in July in a part-time capacity (and serves as Religion Instructor in the school, plus assisting with confirmation instruction and other duties at the church). Unique to her call is that her husband, Rev. Nathan Nelson (also a 2024 CSL graduate), serves as associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Leavenworth.

The final major change (in the same service as Pastor Mease's retirement on January 12, 2025) was the installation of Rev. Dale Skurla as the Intentional Interim Minister for a period of 12-16 months (culminating at the installation of the next permanent pastor, or no later than May 2026). At the start of 2025, Rev. Jason Boetcher was appointed to fulfill the term of Rev. Ed Mease as Circuit Visitor of Circuit 2 (the Meases have moved to Park City, Kansas, outside of Circuit 2).

### **2-10 Trinity Lutheran Church, Leavenworth**

In the past triennium, Trinity Lutheran Church in Leavenworth has continued to proclaim God's Word and administer His Sacraments to those in the Leavenworth/Lansing area, and beyond as they await the Lord's return in glory. Trinity is thankful to be able to assist between 150 and 200 families each month via Trinity House, the food and clothing pantry ministry of Trinity. They also give glory to God as they celebrate the calling of an associate pastor and as the congregation celebrates their 70th year of ministry in this place.

### **2-11 Trinity Family of Faith Lutheran Church & Learning Center Preschool, Basehor**

In 2023, Trinity Family of Faith Lutheran Church in Basehor were able to celebrate God's gracious provision by burning their mortgage. They are hoping to build a new fellowship hall with classrooms and offices to better be able to serve the needs of a growing congregation. Trinity's childcare center continues to be a blessing to the community with the full-time preschool and childcare operating out of the facility and the before-and-after care provided to the Basehor/Linwood school district.

### **Circuit 3N - Rev. Joel Schultz, Circuit Visitor**

#### **3-2 Christ Lutheran Church & School, Overland Park**

No report submitted.

#### **3-4 Trinity Lutheran Church & Preschool, Mission and Shawnee**

It's been a year of changes and transitions at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission and Shawnee. Rev. Dr. Mark Schulz retired in January 2024. Rev. Luke Jacob was called and accepted the role of senior pastor. Rev. Phil Cook took a call to be executive director of LUMA in May. The 2.2-million-dollar Shawnee campus building expansion is all but finished and now in use. The last step of the process is finishing the installation of the elevator (finished in January 2025). In November, Rev. Mark Wood was called and accepted the lead pastor role at the Mission campus. Rev. Russ Peterson returned the call to be lead pastor at the Shawnee campus. The call committee is back working on a second call list received from the District for that role.

#### **3-5 Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool, Olathe**

This past triennium, Redeemer Lutheran Church in Olathe celebrated her 60th Anniversary. Rev. Ron Flentgen, who previously served at Redeemer, was able to preach for the celebration. There were 20 baptisms (18 children, 2 adults), 21 confirmations (8 youth, 13 adults), 48 transfers in, and 13 received by profession of faith.

Redeemer continues to have two Divine Services every Lord's Day at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. The second service is signed for the deaf and hearing impaired. The services are supported by an excellent music department with a growing choir, strong brass and percussion accompaniment, and a bell choir. There are two LWML societies and five weekly adult Bible studies, with Sunday school and youth group on Sundays. Redeemer also started a young adult fellowship group that meets monthly. They continue their faith partnership with Rolling Ridge Elementary School. Redeemer also participated in a Jesus Door-2-Door event, continue to outreach to the deaf community, and are involved in the District KansaSEED. The deaconess interns continue their studies through the EILT program of Concordia Seminary St. Louis. Upon completing their studies, they will receive a deaconess certificate and begin working among the deaf in Kansas and the greater Kansas City region. Above all, Redeemer gives thanks to God for all these things and trust in His future work among them.

#### **3-9 Hope Lutheran Church & School, Shawnee**

Since 1954, Hope Lutheran Church in Shawnee has been proclaiming the good news of the hope because Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. The people of God gathered on the corner of Shawnee Mission Parkway and Quivira Rd. have many and various talents which they use to bring this message to hope to the world through their many groups, service and generosity.

Hope Lutheran School has the following priorities: faith and outreach, academic rigor, and connections and belonging. Mrs. Nancy Jankowski\* serves as the principal. The school staff for the 2024-2025 school year included (\*denotes called worker) Mr. Ian McCarthy - 8th grade; Miss Miranda Mondary\* - 7th grade; Mrs. Kristi Schkade\* - 6th grade; Miss Rachel Norem - 5th grade; Mrs. Janet Begley\* - 4th grade; Mrs. Marjorie Krzesinski\* - 3rd grade; Miss Kayla Ernestmeyer\* - 2nd grade; Miss Hannah Christian\* - 1st grade, and Mrs. Oralia Ochoa - Kindergarten. Mrs. Kathy Pluff serves as preschool director alongside Mrs. Annette Burgoon, Mrs. Karen Jaime, Mrs. Rebecca Palermo, and Mrs. Tessa Firestone.

Major events since 2022 included celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Hope Lutheran School (2023), calling Rev. Jacob T. Mueller (2024), and hosting the Lutherans For Life Regional Conference (2024). As Hope moves into the future, they plan to continue sharing the message of hope in a hopeless world.

### **3-10 Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church & Preschool, Olathe**

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Olathe welcomed their 14th vicar since 2011 in August, Josiah and Amanda Sandcork. The vicarage program is a great blessing to the congregation and members relish to opportunity to help train future pastors for the church.

Rev. Mike Ada continues as associate pastor. His area of focus is on youth and family ministry and outreach. Rev. Joel Schultz continues as senior pastor and continues to emphasize generosity and vocation with good outcomes. Beautiful Savior's preschool continues with a strong enrollment under the leadership of Mrs. Amy Schultz.

On May 1, 2022, Beautiful Savior dedicated a 100 x 150-foot building expansion. This expansion added a large fellowship hall, kitchen, eight classrooms, a large youth room, some conference rooms and office space.

Beautiful Savior continues their partnership with El Divino Salvador Lutheran Church in Zacapa, Guatemala. They assist the congregation with Bible training for children and adults as well as other projects as needed.

In June of 2023 Beautiful Savior became the mother church for a new church plant in De Soto, Kansas. After five months of planning, they held the first worship service on Reformation Sunday 2023. Rev. John Kastner was called to be an associate pastor at Beautiful Savior with a specific focus on the church plant. Pastor Kastner graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, and was ordained and installed at Beautiful Savior on July 21, 2024.

The congregation looks forward to the mission and ministry endeavors that the Lord will continue to place before them. These may well include a new preschool and sanctuary building and perhaps a Hispanic church plant.

### **3-11 Augsburg Lutheran Church, Shawnee**

Augsburg Lutheran Church in Shawnee (hereafter ALC) enters its 21st year as a congregation of the LCMS with the same Christ given emphasis on Word and Sacrament ministry with which it began. The number of congregants (Communicants) has slightly grown in the last triennium. Though one of the smaller parishes in the Kansas District the percentage of those attending the Divine Service who stay for the Catechetical Hour is close to "one-to-one." ALC continues to provide missionary (financial) aid to the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Mission, as well as two "lay" families doing mission support in Kenya and Latvia.

The future is the Lord's work among Augsburg, and the only goal is faithfulness. The Mass (Holy Communion) is offered every Lord's Day and on Thursday evenings. ALC is committed to the historic and traditional rubrics and liturgies of the Church of the West, as known and practiced by Synod, its German precursors, and the American "Common Service" (TLH pg. 15 and Setting 3 LSB).

### **Light of the World Lutheran Church, De Soto (church plant)**

Light of the World Lutheran Church (LOTW) in De Soto saw a big change in 2024 with the addition of a called pastor, Rev. John Kastner. Pastor Kastner is called to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Olathe as an associate pastor but is the lead pastor at LOTW. With the addition of a full-time called pastor, LOTW has been better able to place itself into the local community through supporting community events such as De Soto Days, Halloween Fest, and Deck the Halls.

Although still worshipping in temporary locations, the group has been trying to find a more permanent place to call home. In March 2025, LOTW was able to rent a storefront in De Soto, which opens up many doors to fellowship and outreach events that were previously limited without a place outside of Sunday worship.

Within this next three years, LOTW will continue to share the Gospel with the residents of De Soto and surrounding communities, to find the lost and call sinners to Jesus, and will hopefully become its own self-supporting congregation.

### **Circuit 3S - Rev. James (Andy) Keltner, Circuit Visitor**

Circuit 3 South includes six congregations. Rev. Andy Keltner serves as Circuit Visitor. The congregations remain strong and viable. God's Word is being proclaimed, and Christ's children are being served. The circuit meetings, which are held jointly with Circuit 3 North, are centered around worship and Scriptural study. The local congregations host conferences and the pastors meet collegially apart from circuit meetings.

### **3-1 King of Kings Lutheran Church & Open Arms Child Development Center, Gardner**

Under the pastoral care of Rev. Daniel Wehmeier, King of Kings Lutheran Church, Gardner, continues to be an active presence in the southern Johnson County region. The congregation enjoys reaching out to many new families moving into

the area and welcoming them into the community and congregation. With the help of their dynamic Open Arms Child Development Center serving close to 100 students, King of Kings look for ways to equip and involve families and friends in the mission field, beginning in their own backyard and reaching the ends of the earth through servant and mission opportunities.

Highlights include the joy of watching unchurched and dechurched individuals and families grow in faith, understanding, and service in response to God's grace and guidance. Another growing ministry is their Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT), which has grown to be the training team for the Kansas District. King of Kings is actively looking for new ways to share the unchanging God in a constantly changing society through worship and ministry. Recently, they have expanded their campus with the addition of classroom, storage, and multi-ministry wing.

### **3-3 Lord of Life Lutheran Church & Early Education Center, Leawood**

The past three years have brought healing to Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Leawood, from conflicts that had come to light in prior years. Rev. Scott Holder has worked with congregational leadership to rebuild the staff and see God's ministry flourish once again. One full-time DCE has been added, overseeing Family and Missions efforts. An SMP vicar is also in place, learning and being formed for pastoral ministry. Currently the congregation is also looking to add a second DCE, overseeing Children's and Middle School ministry efforts. During this time, Lord of Life has seen significant growth. Worship attendance has more than doubled in the past three years. Lord of Life has also adopted a focus to "Grow as Disciples, Grow more Disciples." As part of this, many new leaders have come to serve in elected capacities. Ministry Teams have been formed with specific efforts to grow God's people as disciples in their specified areas.

Through these teams and other efforts, God's people are taking intentional steps to be active in prayer, worship, and reading their Bibles, the main areas where growth as disciples takes place. Lord of Life is served by Rev. Dr. Scott Holder. Pastor Holder was installed in the summer of 2021. The congregation has experienced many called staff changes during the last triennium. They are anticipating renewed growth and opportunity during the next triennium. The Early Education Center at Lord of Life is licensed by the state of Kansas and accredited by the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA).

### **3-6 Bethany Lutheran Church & School, Overland Park**

Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park, is served by Rev. Sean Baker, who was installed as senior pastor in April 2024. The congregation has experienced many staff changes during the last triennium, which includes the installation of DCE Andrea Roettger. A call committee has been formed to call an associate pastor to add to the growing staff and needs of ministry. They are seeing renewed energy and growth in ministry, especially with young families and young adults. Bethany Lutheran School has grown over the last triennium, reaching up to 200 students in our fully accredited school. Bethany Lutheran Preschool and Mother's Day Out has 140 students as well. Bethany Lutheran Church and School are actively looking for ways to share God's truth through the opportunities and mission field He has given them.

### **3-7 First Lutheran Church & SonShine Preschool, Paola**

First Lutheran Church, Paola, is served by Rev. Christian Schultz (CTSFW, 2020). The congregation continues to grow in unity, faith, and song. In unity, the congregation consolidated services from two Sunday morning services (one traditional, one contemporary) to a single, united, liturgical service. Members have expressed deep appreciation for being able to see all the members gathered at a single time. This has also improved communication and collaboration between members.

In faith, two points are noteworthy. The congregation changed lectionaries from the 3-year to the 1-year lectionary, which has allowed for more frequent teaching on fewer readings to help catechize the members. Also, the Board of Elders studied and helped Pastor Schultz implement Communion every Sunday, which has further supported catechesis, consistency, and faith. In song, First Lutheran purchased a new digital organ and was blessed by a recital by the organist, Janet Bucher, in August 2024, and continues to be blessed by her talents on the instrument every week. also hosted the Kantorei of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, in March 2024.

First Lutheran also hosts SonShine Preschool, which is directed by Kris Fuchs and two support staff. Nearly 50 students between the ages of 3 and 5 attend three classes (*MWF A.M.*; *MWF P.M.*; *TR A.M.*). While there is very little overlap between SonShine attendance and church membership, weekly chapel services invite the children into the sanctuary for Bible stories, prayer, and song.

### **3-8 Trinity Lutheran Church, Paola**

Trinity Lutheran Church, Paola, continues to celebrate the gifts that God has bestowed upon them in Christ Jesus. In 2022 Trinity celebrated the retirement of Rev. Kevin Vogts, who had served them for nine years and as a pastor in the LCMS for 36 years. Rev. Joshua Woelmer accepted the call to serve Trinity and was installed in June 2023.





#### **4-5 Messiah Lutheran Church, Emporia**

Rev. Eddie Hosch took a call to Hawaii in September 2024. The congregation was then served by an Intentional Interim pastor from September to November. That pastor took a call to Arizona to full time ministry. Since then, Rev. Bert Tegtmeier has cared for God's people while the congregation has been vacant to the present. Messiah is in the process of calling a new shepherd to lead their congregation. They are looking forward to how God will bless their congregation and community in and through their new shepherd. Through it all, God has continued to bring His Word to His people and feed them with His gifts.

#### **4-7 Faith Lutheran Church & Preschool, Ottawa**

In May 2025, Rev. Timothy Roth celebrates his four-year anniversary at Faith Lutheran Church in Ottawa. In January 2025, the preschool celebrates its 45th anniversary. The current director is Stephanie Circle who completed her 26th year of service and currently serves the District's Early Childhood Cabinet. During the triennium, Faith transitioned to celebrate the Eucharist weekly and began a prayer service on Wednesday mornings with a faithful few.

Faith hosted several guest presenters, including seminary professors and LCMS missionaries. Their High School group is strong, with many registering for the District and LCMS Youth Gatherings. Faith started sending care packages to their college students away from home. A sensory room was installed, and annual training began to welcome and care for children and adults with sensory needs.

Faith adopted two trailers owned by Hope House, the local crisis resource center, as temporary housing to help community members get back on their feet. They are doing a Genesis Study to consider opening a micro-school. Faith is also working toward partnering with LifeCare Center, the local pregnancy and family recourse center, to begin discipling clients who want to pursue knowing Christ. The elders began exploring the possibility of adding a second ministry person.

#### **4-8 Zion Lutheran Church, Vassar**

Zion Lutheran Church in Vassar was served by Rev. Joshua Woelmer until he took a call in the fall of 2023. In lieu of a vacancy, a call was extended and accepted for an Intentional Interim pastor, Rev. James Kirschenmann. Pastor Kirschenmann was installed in January of 2024, and he continues to carry out his ministry there. God's Word and Sacraments continue to be delivered to God's people.

#### **Circuit 6 - Rev. Sean Kilgo, Circuit Visitor**

Circuit 6 continues to settle after a number of vacancies in the last triennium. For a brief moment all congregations in the circuit had called pastors serving them. Recently, one congregation has gone into vacancy (Christ, Topeka) and is in the process as of this writing in calling a new shepherd. The congregations in the circuit continue to strive toward greater unity in our life together, including looking toward circuit events for the pastors, church workers/staff, and congregations. They rejoice that the Lord has continued to be gracious to all the congregations as they have by and large come out of Covid stronger and with greater resolve to labor in the Lord's vineyard.

#### **6-1 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lawrence**

Immanuel Lutheran Church is nearing 100 years of Word and Sacrament ministry in Lawrence. During the last triennium, Immanuel completed several building improvements, including the installation of a new roof and new church sign. They maintain an active outreach to KU students during the school year. The youth group will be attending the LCMS Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Immanuel is striving to find new and effective ways to reach the community and make the best use of their location on this busy corner of Lawrence.

#### **6-2 Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lawrence**

Over the past Triennium the Lord has continued to bless the saints of God at Redeemer. In addition to the regular administration of Word and Sacrament, the congregation continues to have an active and vibrant outreach to students at KU. Through this outreach Redeemer has seen multiple students come to the saving waters of Holy Baptism, learn and confess the faith to join at the Blessed Altar, and Redeemer has celebrated six weddings. Redeemer has also started up two scouting troops for boys and girls in the area: American Heritage Girls and Trail Life USA. Through this Redeemer rejoices to have the privilege to encourage and build up families in the area and instruct young boys and girls in how they can grow to be godly men and women, husbands and wives, fathers and husbands.

#### **6-3 Calvary Lutheran Church & Learning Center, Topeka**

Over the past triennium, Calvary Lutheran Church in Topeka has been blessed with significant activity and growth in ministry. The blessings of Word and Sacrament remain central to the congregation, and God's grace continues to sustain. Calvary completed a major building project that included the addition of an entry vestibule and elevator, greatly enhancing the accessibility of the facilities. This improvement reflects the congregation's commitment to ensuring that all members and visitors can worship and participate fully in the life of the church.









### **8-5 St. Pauls Lutheran Church, Junction City**

The average worship attendance at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Junction City was 20 during the past triennium. She enjoys Sunday afternoon Bible studies and helped to form the Flint Hills Lutheran Women's Missionary League with St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Alta Vista, Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Mission, Lake Wabaunsee, and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Junction City. St. Paul's was blessed with two new members in 2023 and three confirmations and one new member in 2024. She celebrated the eternal life of one of her members who was called home in 2024.

### **8-6 St. Luke's Lutheran Church & Preschool, Manhattan**

The mission statement of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Manhattan is: Sharing Christ's love with those around us. There are three worship services offered every weekend: Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Her education hour is Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Director of Christian Education William Prann joined St. Luke's ministry staff in January of 2024. His main areas of focus are preschool, children's ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry. St. Luke's part-time music director, Gretchen Hartsook, leads her children's music, handbells, a choir, and a praise team. St. Luke's has an Early Learning Center which includes infant care. There is a Sunday school, a Wednesday night program for children called B.A.S.I.C. Training, Vacation Bible School, a youth group, Cancer Companions, a women's Bible study, a women's Bible study, Theology on Tap, Mission of Love quilting group, two Lutheran Women in Mission circles, and a Lutheran Laymen's League group. St. Luke's also owns and operates American Heritage Girls Troop KS0057 and Trail Life USA Troop KS0057.

LCMS-U is a ministry of St. Luke's and is an officially recognized organization at Kansas State University. St. Luke's also has two volunteer parish nurses. She also sponsors many foreign exchange students, being involved in both International Student Ministry, Inc. and Helping International Students.

### **8-7 Trinity Lutheran Church, McFarland**

Since June 2021, Trinity Lutheran Church has studied a number of ways to continue as a vital congregation in the small community of McFarland, Kansas. Since 2024, Trinity has been served by its vacancy pastors, Rev. Terry DeGiovanni and Rev. Neil Buono. The arrangement allows worship and activities to continue in a timely manner. The goal of this congregation is to preach the Gospel and administer the Sacraments in their truth and purity, which is the number one command of our Lord. This proclamation of the Gospel and administration of the Sacraments is followed with acts of love.

### **8-8 Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Wamego**

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church's pastor is Rev. Jim Price. Paul White serves as Director of Christian Education. Mt. Calvary has expanded her adult education programs. The men's group is planning its fourth annual men's retreat. In 2025 a women's retreat will be added. In January of 2025 a small conference on "Christ in the Old Testament" was scheduled and open to the public. Couples from the congregation will be attending a retreat to strengthen marriages in the spring of 2025.

Mt. Calvary financially supports a school bus that runs from Wamego to St. John Lutheran School in Alma. She is in the second year of supporting the mission "reset" of Christ Lutheran Church in Manhattan. In 2024, Mt. Calvary participated in the Kansas District *Faith at Work* project with a special focus on increasing the number of volunteers in the community schools. The children and youth ministry organized a Trunk-or-Treat that was well received by the community. Mt. Calvary's leadership is in the very initial stages of considering the possible blessings of adding another full-time church worker.

### **8-9 St. Luke Lutheran Church, Wheaton**

St. Luke Lutheran Church has served the small town of Wheaton and the surrounding region since July 1897. Rev. Terry DeGiovanni is the pastor and has served for 18 years. Though small in number, St. Luke proclaims Christ crucified and administers the Sacraments as Christ commands. Her members do not leave their faith at the door but take the message in word and deed to the community. St. Luke maintains a strong Sunday school, though most of her members are over 60 years of age. Her goal is to preach Christ as long as the Lord permits.

### **8-10 Christ Lutheran Church, Manhattan**

Rev. King Crawford retired in May 2023 after serving Christ Lutheran Church for 10 years. The congregation thanks God for Pastor Crawford's faithful service. Rev. James Woelmer was installed on August 26, 2023. He introduced Christ Lutheran Church to the community by visiting with 926 homes. For those who were unchurched, he talked with them about Jesus, gave them a copy of the Small Catechism, and invited them to the Divine Service. Christ Lutheran Church is reaching out to the community with the Gospel. Her average attendance has increased to 38. Thanks be to God.

Bible study on Sunday morning and during the week has resumed. Pastor Woelmer is involved in campus ministry at KSU. He participates in the Monday evening LCMS-U Bible study and has given monthly presentations at the Student Union. Christ Lutheran's mission is to deliver the Gospel in Word and Sacrament so that sinners receive the forgiveness of sins and so that

others may come to faith in Christ. By God's grace, Christ Lutheran Church is distinctly Lutheran in theology, historic in worship, faithful in preaching God's Word, and devoted to reflecting the light of Christ.

### **Circuit 9 - Rev. Kurt Letcher, Circuit Visitor**

One of the big changes in the circuit was that Rev. Davis had reached the limit of his terms as Circuit Visitor, and Rev. Kurt Letcher from Newton was chosen as the new Circuit Visitor. The vacancy at Herington was a bit troublesome. Part of the issue is that it is now a tri-parish consisting of Our Redeemer in Herington, Immanuel, Shady Brook, and St. John's, Lyon's Creek. Prayers were finally answered when a seminarian from St. Louis, Rev. Jaron Melin, was placed there. Another joy was finding an SMP minister. Dr. Frank Johnson of Tabor College in Hillsboro was ordained in 2024. He has helped serve a vacancy in Abilene, as well as other pulpits when needed. By the time of the Convention, a short vacancy at Faith, Abilene, will have been filled by another seminary graduate, Rev. Nathan Harkins from St. Louis.

The other congregations in the circuit continue being served by their pastors, some of whom have served them for a good number of years. Rev. Clark Davis survived a health crisis, and the brothers of the circuit took turns visiting him each day of his hospital stay. Pastor Davis has received treatments and is strong enough now to lead services at both of his congregations on Sunday morning again. Thanks be to God!

#### **9-1 Faith Lutheran Church, Abilene**

Faith Lutheran Church in Abilene was served this past triennium by Rev. Joe Barlau. He took a call in late 2024 to Minnesota. The vacancy was served by Rev. Frank Johnson from Hillsboro, as well as some of the pastors from Salina. Rev. Nathan Harkins graduated from the St. Louis Seminary in January and was ordained at his home congregation of Beautiful Savior, Olathe. Pastor Harkins was installed at Faith Lutheran in the middle of March.

One project which the members of Faith are proud of is their basement remodel project. They spent much time, effort, and money to resize classrooms and establish a kitchen in the basement to serve the congregation for meals and funeral meals. Faith underwent some changes when some church members who were planning to retire suddenly went to their eternal reward. Thankfully, there were members who were able and willing to step up and fill in the vacant offices.

#### **9-2 Calvary Lutheran Church, Council Grove**

Calvary Lutheran Church in Council Grove has had a recent influx of new members through Proclamation of Faith in 2024. Also, a new family of six entered together through baptism. The parking lot has been fully paved and painted along with the south side of the building getting a new stucco finish. 2025 will mark 80 years of ministry in Council Grove; a celebration is being planned for early summer. The continued dual parish arrangement with Faith Lutheran Church in Emporia is a blessing as both congregations seek to serve each community through shared ministry.

#### **9-4 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Herington (Shady Brook) & (9-5) Our Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool, Herington & (9-6) St. John's Lutheran Church, Herington (Lyon's Creek)**

Rev. Jaron Melin began ministry in Herington at the beginning of 2024 and the churches of the OIS Partnership went to new times of worship, resembling worship-times before the vacancy. Pastor Melin leads a weekly Communion service at the Legacy, which is the nursing home in Herington and used to be run as the Lutheran Home until it was bought by a private company. Our Redeemer also runs a preschool called Our Redeemer Lutheran Preschool, and the pastor leads a chapel service for the preschool students. Our Redeemer also hosts midweek Catechism classes for grades 3-8 for the OIS Partnership. Pastor Melin teaches grades 7-8, which ends with Confirmation. Two students were confirmed in 2024, one from Our Redeemer and the other from Immanuel. There were two transfers of membership to Our Redeemer, one transfer away from Immanuel, three new members of Our Redeemer by profession of faith, and one new member by baptism.

Our Redeemer hosted a one-day VBS in January 2024, which had never been done in the past. In May 2024 Our Redeemer had a car wash and bake-sale as part of the Districtwide initiative, *Faith at Work*. In the summer, Our Redeemer had a float for the Tri-County Free Fair in Herington, as well as a booth to greet citizens and invite them to the summer VBS. Our Redeemer hosted their summer VBS in July 2024. In December 2024, Our Redeemer participated in the Pilgrimage of Light, where several churches of Herington told different parts of the Christmas story while in costume at Father Padilla Park while people drove or walked through the park. In December 2024 Our Redeemer engaged in Christmas caroling throughout Herington.

Throughout 2024, Deaconess Elizabeth Melin hosted various events on behalf of Lutherans in Jewish Evangelism (LIJE) to help the congregations to become more familiar with the Biblical feasts, seeing how they are fulfilled in Christ and how Christians might reach out to their Jewish neighbors. Deaconess Melin was also invited by the DCEs of the Kansas District to give a presentation on LIJE at their annual retreat in the Kansas District Retreat Center. When Zion, Latimer closed, Our Redeemer contacted as many of their members as possible, asking if they would like to switch their membership. We currently have a list of members who said yes, those who said no, and those who have not replied. Our Redeemer also holds the membership records of Zion, Latimer.



Pastor Melin contacted some of the Zion, Latimer, members in-person at the Ice Cream Social Benefit Concert hosted by the Latimer Lutheran Church Preservation Society in September 2024. Also, in September 2024 St. John's hosted a presentation by the Herington Historical Society about its historic sanctuary and cemetery. In October 2024, St. John's celebrated the renovation of their organ with a rededication and blessing. Every Tuesday morning members of St. John's work together at their old schoolhouse, organizing donations for Orphan Grain Train. 2024 marked the 20th anniversary of their participation in the program.

**9-7 Zion Lutheran Church, Hillsboro**

No report submitted.

**9-9 St. John's Lutheran Church, Lincolnvill**

The saints of St. John's Lutheran Church in Lincolnvill continue to be served by Rev. Alan Stahlecker. The congregation has continued their TIM partnership with Rev. Jonathan Clausing, who has been serving as a theological educator in Tanzania for a number of years. His wife, Anita, is the granddaughter and niece of long-time members of St. John's. They look forward to an official visit from the Clausing family in the days shortly after the 2025 District Convention. It is always great to hear of the work in Tanzania and consider ways in which the congregation can further her support and encouragement of that work.

While partnership conversations with the Herington tri-parish did not materialize in the prior triennium, there is the realization that further partnership conversations lie ahead for the congregation as a variety of resources for ministry are challenged on their own. Meanwhile, before the District Convention arrives, the congregation will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the current church building (the third one in the congregation's 148 years.) The celebration will be observed over a two-week period in May. The first week will focus on the service of music as the congregation has utilized the same organ over those 100 years. While a regular organist is no longer a reality for the congregation, it now mostly utilizes the Concordia Organist. The second week will focus on the faithfulness of the abiding Word through the work of the means of grace as President Panzer will preach for that service and celebrate with the congregation.

**9-10 Our Savior Lutheran Church, Marion**

No report submitted.

**9-11 Trinity Lutheran Church, Ramona & (9-13) St. John's Lutheran Church, Tampa**

During the past three years, both congregations have responded in a tremendous way to support their pastor and his family after he was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in January of 2023. Their patience and support made it possible for the healing process to work. Supporting the pastor was not the full extent of the ministry in both congregations. St. John's continues, through its mission outreach, to support the work of the District, rural ministry, and especially students at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. It has been encouraging to see young men respond to the support, and it is a blessing to be able to help them prepare to be pastors in some small way.

Trinity continues to seek every opportunity to reach out to members of the community and support them, whether they are recovering from an accident, having a cancer diagnosis, or just having adequate housing. The congregation continues to provide back-to-school supplies for children in the Ramona community. The past three summers also saw Trinity providing a VBS program in the community. Both congregations share a common theme from 2 Corinthians 5:7, "For we walk by faith, not by sight." The congregations will continue to follow that advice and serve the Lord in this corner of His kingdom.

**9-12 Grace Lutheran Church, Strong City**

Grace Lutheran Church in Strong City continues as a congregation which is vacant and not calling a full-time minister. They are served by retired pastors who make the trip each Sunday to serve them and the people of Grace with joy. Their presence in the community continues as they serve an after-school program for children. The school is visible from the church and is easy to reach.

**9-14 Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool, Newton**

Zion Lutheran Church in Newton continues to rebuild Sunday church attendance. It has been a slow process after COVID as many people are more aware of their illnesses and concerned about passing them on to others.

Donna Williams, Zion's long-time youth worker, retired in the last triennium. They have not been able to secure a new leader as of yet but are looking. The younger children (ages 5-12) are the largest group of young members. They have an active Sunday school with a variety of teachers. Rev. Kurt Letcher is also giving children's sermons once a month, which they seem to enjoy.











“in reach” to bring more of the church family back together. Monthly men’s and women’s activities are supplemented by regular events for the whole congregation, with the emphasis on keeping the family going. Calvary’s LWML chapter coordinated with LERT to identify on-the-ground needs and filled 23 buckets with clean-up supplies. These were sent to western North Carolina following the destruction wreaked by Hurricane Helene.

**11-6 Bethany Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center, Wichita**

No report submitted.

**11-8 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wichita**

Immanuel has done a lot in the past three years. She has grown by nearly double in numbers and has increased weekly services so that Matins and Vespers are prayed daily at church, Evening Prayer is year-round on Wednesday evenings, with both adult and children’s catechesis beforehand. Immanuel also began and have sustained a midweek Divine Service on Wednesday mornings at 11 a.m. Last year they began the “For the Sake of the Elect” program where 3-5 seminarians are housed as summer field workers, giving them opportunity to join a parish in the daily life of prayer and fellowship. This past summer Immanuel had two single men and one married seminarian and their two children. The congregation looks forward to this year’s program! They also hosted a deaconess intern this year who has helped publish the grass roots journal, *Fides Quae*. Finances are good and there is a lot of energy at Immanuel for the future.

**11-9 Trinity Lutheran Church, Wichita**

The saints of Trinity praise Almighty God for His ongoing blessings among the many changes over the last few years. Trinity’s pastor, Rev. Geoff Boyle, accepted a call to Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Indiana in 2022. On September 3, 2022, Rev. Aaron Filipek was installed. In November of 2022, Trinity was no longer in a dual parish agreement with Grace Lutheran Church as Grace held its last Divine Service and closed as a congregation. Trinity welcomed many former Grace members into its fellowship. Trinity also continued with Hispanic ministry that was previously offered at Grace. In 2024, Trinity celebrated its 90th Anniversary. As the congregation looks to the future, it is their prayer that Christ would continue to strengthen their fellowship in the bonds of love and peace and increase faithful witness to His salvation.

**11-10 Trinity Lutheran Church & School, Winfield**

No report submitted.

**11-11 Trinity Lutheran Church, Medicine Lodge & (11-12) St. John Lutheran Church, Nashville**

I have been serving these two churches as their vacancy pastor since March of this year. During that period, I have conducted two worship services each Sunday, one at each church. I have not attempted to change the service format or any other events. So, our Sunday services remain each month as they were when I started serving here in Nashville and Medicine Lodge. In addition to the worship services, I stayed at their parsonage to serve each church Monday and Tuesdays, Monday in Nashville and Tuesday in Medicine Lodge. During these weekdays, I served the shut-ins communion and visited the sick, elderly, and those members who had recently stopped attending church, the names of whom were supplied by the elders and the church secretary. During these months, I have catechized two adults who have been baptized and joined the church and have baptized two children. At present I am attempting to work with two other adult non-members to catechize them and bring them into the church. In the future I would like to begin a program to have regular attending church members invite non-attending members to return to church. Both churches are small, but each have former members who could be reached and brought back into the church. The Lord has blessed me with the energy and health necessary to serve these churches, although as a result of my recent health issues it has been more challenging.

**11-13 St. Paul Lutheran Church, Preston**

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Preston is a congregation of God’s people who continue thankfully to receive the Gospel and Sacraments from the Lord Jesus each Sunday morning for their life and salvation. Those who attend the two weekly adult Bible Studies enjoy growing in the grace and knowledge of the Savior and in an overall knowledge of Bible history. St. Paul continue studies from the Bible, Luther’s Small Catechism, and Lutheran Service Book with children of the congregation each Wednesday evening. There are active LWML and LLL groups who serve both the congregation and the community. Several members of the congregation are also involved in monthly service at the Pratt County Food Bank and in serving occasional meals for the Circles of Hope meetings in Pratt. St. Paul looks forward to celebrating 125 years of God’s grace in September of 2025.

**Region IV**

**Circuit 13 - Rev. Christopher Craig, Circuit Visitor**

Over the last few decades Circuit 13 has seen a dramatic shift in its population. Almost all the communities that our congregations are in are shrinking, and that is reflected in our congregation’s attendance. We have also seen partnerships

being formed and feel the lack of pastors able and willing to serve in our context. Despite this, our circuit remains active and is working together to figure out how to continue to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments in our communities. We are striving to be more active with circuit events, including a convocation, circuit youth events, partnership meetings, and seminars sponsored by our various congregations and have succeeded in this. We look forward to seeing what God has planned for our congregations and remain optimistic about our capability of continuing the mission of the Church in our communities for our people.

### **13-1 Zion Lutheran Church, Downs**

The people of Zion Lutheran Church in Downs continue to gather around Word and Sacrament as they have for 131 years. Following the departure of Rev. Jason Toombs to another ministry setting in late 2023, Rev. Sherman Stenson was called to serve Zion in April 2024 and was installed in August 2024. Weekly worship attendance typically ranges from 45-55, with Sunday School 4-14 and adult Bible Study 6-16. The Lord's Supper is celebrated regularly and joyfully on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of each month. In addition to the usual Lenten and Advent services, a midweek service was implemented on Thanksgiving Eve in 2024. Plans are underway to base this year's Lenten services on "The Forgiveness Challenge," a 40-day Bible study series. A Ladies Bible Study (Promised Rest) is also being started in February 2025, and a Women's Retreat (Beautiful Feet) is in the planning stages. In the past year, two members have departed to be with the Lord, one baptism took place, and 10 souls have joined the congregation by transfer (7 communicants plus three children). Zion is one of the supporting congregations of the LCMS outreach in Concordia, Kansas. Zion members also actively participate in the Downs Food Bank and the Agape Shop (a local Christian thrift shop).

### **13-2 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Ellsworth**

Keren, Immanuel Lutheran Church's Charities comfort dog, has been making 350-400 visits per year locally, regionally and around the state to schools, hospitals, nursing homes and other locations. She and her handlers are happy to visit anywhere to bring the comfort of a warm fuzzy presence, and much more importantly, the comfort of the Gospel. If interested in having her visit, please contact her handlers through her Facebook page. Immanuel is also beginning to look forward to the future of their congregation.

### **13-3 St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ellsworth**

Last year, St. Paul's gave farewell and Godspeed to Rev. Keith Emshoff as he took a call elsewhere. The worship attendance remains strong, especially for a rural church out in the fields. St. Paul's also completed a capital campaign to raise funds for a Fellowship Hall, which has since been built and is now in use primarily for Sunday school, Midweek, and hosting increasing potlucks. After taking several months to consider how to move forward in filling the vacancy, and after polling the congregation as a whole, the voters decided to approach Bethlehem in Sylvan Grove, who is currently assisting in filling their vacancy, to begin formal discussions about forming a dual parish. The congregation is now awaiting the response from Bethlehem.

### **13-6 Trinity Lutheran Church, Hunter**

Trinity Lutheran Church in Hunter continues to be an active rural congregation served by Rev. Matt Schneider. The congregation has been very supportive of him during his health struggles these last few years. Their attendance has been steady, and they remain one of the most active churches in the circuit in their outreach and fundraising activities.

### **13-7 St. John Lutheran Church, Lincoln & (13-8) St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lincoln (Westfall)**

This triennium, the saints of these two Lincoln County churches wished Rev. Benjamin Siebert a blessed farewell as he took a call to Zion Lutheran Church in Hastings, Nebraska, in August of 2022. A call was issued in late September of that year and was accepted in late October 2022 by Rev. Don Haselhuhn, formerly of Trinity Lutheran Church in Burlington. Pastor Haselhuhn was moved to Lincoln on December 27, 2022. His installation followed on Saturday, January 7, 2023. DCE Sonja Kobbeman retired at the end of 2023. There was a celebration for her in January of 2024 with a potluck meal after a wonderful church service. Former students joined a choir who sang some of her favorite hymns.

### **13-11 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Sylvan Grove**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sylvan Grove has continued to rebound from Covid, and attendance seems to have stabilized over the last couple of years. The midweek program continues to serve between 20-25 community children every week during the school year, reaching out with God's Word to ensure they know what their Savior has done for them. Bethlehem has a strong youth group that regularly attends *Higher Things* and have begun coordinating circuit gatherings. They are currently assisting St. Paul's, Ellsworth, with their vacancy, and they have asked to begin the formal conversation about a dual parish with them. Bethlehem is in the process of considering this request. Lastly, the long-time organist, Lois Walter, daughter of the Rev. E. F. Peter, a former pastor of Bethlehem retired after 67 years of service. The congregation is immensely grateful for her decades of dedication and enrichment of worship life in Sylvan Grove.

### **13-12 Zion Lutheran Church, Claflin & (13-15) St. Peter Lutheran Church, Holyrood**

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Holyrood and Zion Lutheran Church in Claflin continue to be served by Rev. Daniel Harders. St. Peter and Zion officially celebrated their 140th Anniversary on Reformation Day 2024, with a joint worship celebration



with Zion. Rev. Daniel Grams gave the sermon for the joint Reformation Service at Zion, followed by a meal at St. Peter. St. Peter has continued to offer support throughout the community through its distribution box, where those in need can retrieve items as needed. Zion has also continued its support of Claflin residents through its distribution box where those in need can retrieve items as needed.

### **13-13 Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Great Bend**

The congregation's vacancy is currently being served by the Rev. Kenton Abbott. The congregation is actively seeking partnership opportunities with nearby congregations in order to ensure that Word and Sacrament continue to be available in Great Bend.

### **13-14 Concordia Lutheran Church, Hoisington**

Concordia Lutheran Church in Hoisington has been struggling with issues of growth and attendance for the last three years, as have most small rural churches. Recently there has been a rise in the number of kids in church. Concordia have kids who come as guests to Midweek and are thrilled to be there. There is also a new Midweek Choir, and they sing very well. Last year there were three adult confirmands and three junior confirmands; the year before there were two adults and one junior. While this might sound small there had been no junior confirmands for 2-3 years. This increase has built excitement for a high school youth group.

There are also new officers who are eager to serve, allowing those who have held offices for many years to take a year off and serve the church in other ways. Concordia is also working to get a Men's Club reinvigorated and become an active LLL group. Men in the congregation took charge of the Easter Breakfast three years ago, and they have made it their project. The LWML women are active in supporting Orphan Grain Train, as well as visiting and remembering shut-ins.

### **13-16 Grace Lutheran Church, Larned**

The church's vacancy is being served primarily by Rev. Stanley Palmer from Our Redeemer, Kinsley, and Zion, Offerle. Rev. Dan Harders from St. Peter, Holyrood, and Zion, Claflin, has also been helping, which has made it possible to have worship services more than once a month.

## **Circuit 15 - Rev. Michael Schmidt, Circuit Visitor**

The work of the Lord continued in the past triennium in the northwest corner of Kansas that comprises Circuit 15. The congregations of the circuit gathered together in 2022 with Rev. Michael Salemink of Lutherans For Life presenting on life issues, and again in 2024 with Rev. Dan Galchutt, director of LCMS National Missions, presenting on marriage. Circuit 15 has also hosted summer workshops through Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, hosting Dr. David Schmitt, who presented on preaching, and Dr. Gerhard Bode, who presented on the events leading up to and resulting from Seminex. Several congregations had milestone anniversaries and celebrated with great enthusiasm. The circuit welcomed Rev. Matthew Goehring and bid farewell to Rev. Rocco Mallardi, Rev. Michael Brockman and Rev. Steve Frank, as well as DCE Ben Venteicher. The Circuit is led by Rev. Michael Schmidt as Circuit Visitor, who is completing his third term.

### **15-1 Redeemer Lutheran Church & God's Little Saints Preschool, Atwood**

Rev. Steve Frank faithfully served Atwood until September of 2024, upon which he took a call to Minnesota. The congregation boasts a faithful and dedicated laity who have filled in admirably during the vacancy. Rev. Phil Hoppe has led most services, with assistance from Rev. Brad Rick. Over the past triennium, the congregation celebrated the 35th anniversary of the sanctuary, the 20th anniversary of the preschool, and also completed a massive restoration of their organ.

### **15-2 Trinity Lutheran Church, Colby**

Rev. Phil Hoppe faithfully serves the saints at Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby. Under his leadership, the congregation has increased their web presence, live streaming Sunday services, as well as posting regular Bible studies and inspirational videos. The congregation maintains an active chime choir who play most Sundays. The youth are planning to attend the LCMS Youth Gathering, a primary fundraiser being a garage sale which boasts a great many bargains.

### **15-3 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hoxie**

Rev. Michael Brockman retired in August of 2023, and the congregation has been served in vacancy by various pastors, including Rev. Larry McDermott, Rev. Phil Hoppe, Rev. Matthew Koterba and Rev. Michael Schmidt. The membership has dwindled but a faithful core remains, committed to regular worship and Bible study. The congregation recently completed a land scaping project and strives to be active in the community through various projects.

### **15-4 First Saint John Lutheran Church & Preschool, Kensington**

First Saint John Lutheran Church in Kensington stands on Highway #36, the main artery across north central Kansas. The church serves a rural/small town area with a declining population and local community of just under 400. The church serves a largely agriculture-related area and an aging population. The congregation struggles, as so many do, with

decline in area population and decreasing attendance. However, the church thrives with young children and young families, active church groups, and though the numbers are less than five years ago, are still doing well.

The First Saint John Preschool continues to draw children from the area communities and has a full roster of students, many of whom are not members at First Saint John. They continue to have semi-annual church planning events through which new ideas for outreach, mission, and service possibilities are lifted up and set as goals for the next 2-5 years. This dreaming and planning event has brought very helpful results for First Saint John. Overall, they enjoy continuing to serve in obscurity, rural/small town Northcentral Kansas.

On October 27, 2024, there was a celebration of the congregation's 150th Anniversary. It was well attended with some returning pastors, and our guest preacher, Rev. Justin Panzer. Work to form the congregation began in the fall of 1874. Ulysses S. Grant was President of the nation at that time and so many were still recovering at nine years after the Civil War. First Saint John celebrated the faith and foresight of those faithful people whose names are still reflected and well-remembered in the congregation.

#### **15-6 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norton**

Rev. Rick Rostek retired on December 31, 2021. The congregation called a seminary candidate in 2022 and received Rev. Matthew Goehring. He was ordained and installed in Norton on August 14, 2022. The congregation created a web ministry and added a Sunday Evening Bible study. Worship, Kids midweek, VBS, and choir attendance all continued with faithful participation. The congregation worked on increasing their presence in the community and participated in several Jesus Door-2-Door events.

#### **15-7 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Oakley**

Immanuel Lutheran Church in Oakley continues to gather for the Divine Service on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. Average attendance in 2024 was around 18 per week. One Catechumen continues to prepare for Confirmation later this year. Adult Sunday school continues on Sundays after services with the youth class available as needed. Average attendance is 10. The celebration of 75 years was held in August 2023 with great support from members and former pastors.

Rev. Matthew Koterba from Holy Cross, Scott City, continues to serve as vacancy pastor since August 2023. Efforts have been made to call a pastor with Immanuel, Hoxie. Immanuel has begun to seek new opportunities to reach the lost in Oakley, partly in conjunction with *Faith at Work* and at other times. The ladies of Mary & Martha (LWML) continue to prepare fellowship events and meals throughout the year. Arch books and devotionals were handed out after Oakley's annual Christmas parade. Immanuel looks forward to prayers for a new pastor to be answered but continues in fellowship and the grace of Christ in 2025.

#### **15-8 St. John's Lutheran Church, Oberlin**

St. John's have their Annual Thrivent sponsored Thanksgiving Day Dinner, with a free-will offering opened to the public, including non-member workers. All proceeds are evenly split between the Decatur County Food Pantry and the Decatur County Ministerial Association Fund. The congregation annually participates in the Memorial Day program and in the Decatur County Fair. The LLL collects Bibles and religious materials distributed at the Kansas State Fair Booth. St. John's also sponsors and participates in the Annual Community VBS program and write Oberlin Newspaper religious articles published three months a year. They are establishing a "Young Adults Group" and an "Early Christian Childhood Ministry" for 0-3-year-olds and 4-6-year-olds. There is a ministry outreach in a weekly Bible study at the McCook, Nebraska prison.

#### **15-9 First Lutheran Church, Phillipsburg**

Rev. James Peterson took a call to Curtis, Nebraska. Rev. Dave Hutson from First Saint John Lutheran Church in Kensington filled in as vacancy pastor. The congregation revised their constitution and has explored various options and alternatives to what ministry might look like in the years going forward. When Pastor Hutson had to step away for health reasons, Rev. Matthew Goehring from Immanuel, Norton, stepped in as vacancy pastor on September 1.

#### **15-10 Grace Lutheran Church, Hill City**

After meeting regularly on Saturday evenings for several years, the decision was made to move worship to Sunday afternoons, which has resulted in a boost in attendance. Though small, those who attend are extremely faithful and diligent in maintaining a Lutheran presence in Graham County. The triennium was marked by both baptisms and confirmation for members, signaling new life in the congregation. The congregation has been regularly served by Rev. Michael Schmidt, with assistance from Rev. Joel Hiesterman and Rev. Matthew Goehring.

#### **15-11 Messiah Lutheran Church, Hays**

The past triennium has been one of change for Messiah Lutheran Church in Hays. In October of 2022, Rev. Rocco Mallardi took a call to be a camp director in Missouri, and in April of 2023 DCE Ben Venteicher took a call to a congregation in Nebraska. Despite the departure of two church workers, the volunteers of the congregation have stepped

up and maintained an active youth program that routinely sees 60 students of all ages on Wednesday evenings for Midweek, and up to 100 for VBS. The congregation maintains a visible presence in the Hays community through member involvement and aggressive advertising. During the call process for a new pastor, the congregation has been faithfully served by Rev. Joel Heisterman on Sunday mornings, and Rev. Michael Schmidt in an administrative capacity.

### **15-12 Peace Lutheran Church, Natoma**

The Word of the Lord continues to be proclaimed, and the Sacraments rightly administered at Peace Lutheran Church in Natoma. The congregation maintains an active Lutherans For Life group that is a regular presence at the community Labor Day celebration and the Rooks County Fair. The congregation received a grant to update light fixtures throughout the building. A recent baby boom has reignited the Sunday school program and brought new life to Vacation Bible School. Though the community continues to decline numerically, the congregation maintains an active presence in ensuring that the light of Christ never grows dim. Rev. Michael Schmidt has served Peace, Natoma, for 17 years.

### **15-13 First Lutheran Church, Plainville**

2024 marked 10 years of a dual parish partnership between First, Plainville, and Peace, Natoma, and both congregations continue to benefit from the arrangement. First is alive with young children, who brighten every Sunday morning. An active LWML group continues to host an annual soup supper and assemble various kits for Orphan Grain Train. The congregation has recently taken some of the blessings God has given, and shared them with various missions, realizing that the community of Plainville serves the needs of several surrounding communities. Rev. Michael Schmidt has served First, Plainville, for 10 years.

### **Circuit 16 - Rev. Jason Toombs, Circuit Visitor**

Circuit 16 includes 12 congregations, all of which have called pastors serving to proclaim God's Word to their members. Our circuit covers much of Southwest Kansas and we enjoy getting together to hear how the Lord works in our midst. The circuit has had some turnover in the past triennium, but the Lord's work continues to be done by the wonderful saints and their pastors. We thank all the pastors who have helped out during vacancies and enjoy hearing the Gospel from their lips.

During the triennium, our circuit has focused on the study of God's Word and the Confessions as well as teaching our members the way of the Lord more fully. Our pastors have been willing to assist other congregations when there was a vacancy, especially after a long-serving pastor took a call. We invited Rev. Peter Bender of Concordia Catechetical Academy and Headmaster Dan Snyder of Concordia Academy-Wichita to our Circuit Convocation as we focused on the teaching of God's Word to our members. We look forward to hearing God's message each time we gather as a circuit.

### **16-3 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lakin**

In August 2023 Immanuel welcomed three new families to the congregation, including Rev. Magdiel's family. Abigale Barnhart was baptized on February 18, 2024. There was also the funeral and burial for Marylee Moltz, Don Neff and Harold Waechter.

In the spring of 2024 Immanuel had different projects with the District's *Faith at Work* initiative. With the help from church members and even the community Immanuel was able to gather food baskets and distribute them to eight families who were in great need in the community. Goods were gathered from other churches in the area, the senior center, and neighbors. All the items were placed in baskets and delivered to the homes of these families. Immanuel prayed for them, shared the good news of Christ and got to know the needs of neighbors and keep them in prayer. In another project Immanuel painted the railing outside of the Court House of Lakin.

### **16-5 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Dodge City & (16-9) St. Paul Lutheran Church, Jetmore**

After the long tenure of Rev. Randy Jahnke, the saints at Holy Cross, Dodge City, and St. Paul, Jetmore, rejoice to have Rev. Robert (Bob) Allmann installed as an Intentional Interim pastor. The long tenure of a pastor is a wonderful blessing, yet the congregations rejoice to once more have a pastor to call their own, even during this time of transition. Rev. Palmer and Rev. Hageman served Holy Cross, with help from the circuit, and Rev. Palmer and Rev. Koterba were available for the saints at St. Paul during the transition. There has been more focus on reaching out to the community and the desire to see God continue to work in Dodge City and Jetmore to reach the people who need His good word of the Gospel. The saints of Holy Cross and St. Paul love seeing God working in their midst.

### **16-7 Trinity Lutheran Church & Preschool, Garden City**

Trinity Lutheran Church in Garden City has been blessed by the Lord this past triennium. In 2022, Trinity celebrated its 100th Anniversary of proclaiming Christ. The pinnacle of the celebration was having the Lutheran Hour Speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, preach at the Centennial Divine Service.

Transition came to Trinity in 2023 after the departure of associate pastor, Rev. Santiago Keinbaum and the retirement of their longtime Director of Christian Education, Cynthia Lavrenz. It was shortly after their departure that Rev. Magdiel







presented from a Lutheran stewardship perspective, with details on how to engage in the LCMS Foundation's "Lifetime Plan for Giving." The sessions wrap up with a discussion of the fruits of Planned Giving in the Kansas District, with an opportunity for questions and answers.

### **District Stewardship Staff**

Rev. Daniel Grams is called to serve the Kansas District as the Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services. Shannon Fender supported Rev. Grams in the area of Stewardship. Jeffrey Maltz serves as a District Vice-President for the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) and is ready to provide stewardship consultation to the congregations of the District.

Rev. Grams also visits congregations to preach and teach about Christian stewardship and provides support for workers through networking, sharing resources, and providing consultation.

### **Priorities for the Next Triennium**

There are several efforts for which we pray for God's blessings in the triennium to come. We especially commend the following to you to keep in your prayers:

- 1) Increasing awareness and use of Planned Giving resources through our partnership with the LCMS Foundation.
- 2) Continued advanced planning for District budget and three-year projections.
- 3) Staying current on best practices for stewardship to offer quality resources and consulting for congregations of the District.
- 4) Connecting with all members of the District to partner together for our joint work in the Gospel.
- 5) Encouraging use of Synod's resources so the people of the Kansas District would continue to grow in their practice of free and joyful activity of Christian stewardship.
- 6) Promoting Scholarship Grants and Education Loan Repayment Grants and increasing support for these programs.
- 7) Encouraging congregations to support their church workers well by using the compensation recommendations from the District.

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## **Education & Youth**

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### **Board of Education & Youth**

During the last triennium, the District Board of Education and Youth (BOEY) included the following members: Rev. Michael Schotte (Preston); Lay Leader Dan Thalmann, Chair (Palmer); Lay Leader Bruce Schultz, Secretary (Alma); Staff Advisor Rev. Daniel Grams, and before him, Staff Advisor James Bradshaw, retired.

Ecclesiastical supervision is currently provided by Rev. Daniel Grams, Executive Assistant to the District President for Congregational and School Services. Rev. Grams provides leadership to boards and committees in the District, support to congregations and schools in a variety of ministry areas, and networking of ideas and resources to congregations, schools, and ministries of the District. Rev. Grams also now serves as Superintendent of Lutheran Schools and recently completed his Masters of Nonprofit Administration by the University of Notre Dame.

Jim Bradshaw previously served as Assistant to the District President for Education and Youth until his retirement. A transition period between the two positions took up a significant portion of the last triennium. After a sabbatical last fall, Jim officially retired January 15, 2025. He had been recognized with multiple awards for his leadership during his tenure with the Kansas District, including The National Association of Directors of Christian Education (NADCE), Dale Griffin Master Statesman Award and induction by the Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools (KAIRS) to their Hall of Fame.

Miriam Wehling joined District Staff in November 2024, as the Youth Ministry Coordinator and School Services Assistant. She was onboarded by Janet Powell, who retired January 15, 2025. Miriam will play a central role coordinating youth activities and as the primary contact for event planners and coordinate communication with and involvement of other District Staff.

The committee also led the effort to reform and recruit new positions for related administrative roles, including District National Lutheran School Accreditation Commissioner (Jane Limback), and Schools Professional Development Coordinator (Lottie Lee).

A convention resolution tracker was utilized during the triennium, using guidance from resolutions approved at the 2022 convention. They included:

- To prioritize living as the baptized as a mission and ministry focus for the 2022-2025 triennium. The BOEY had oversight of multiple district events, including youth gatherings, professional-development conferences, and the development and promotion of “*Congregation at Prayer*.”
- To exhort LCMS congregations to encourage future Lutheran school teachers. The BOEY administered legacy funds to support the professional development of teachers.
- To recruit and equip Lutheran administrators for service in educational centers. The BOEY supported work with the development of Professional Development Plans. The board also created administrated roles on the District level to help support administrators in our schools.
- To promote, support and give thanks for our Lutheran educational centers. The BOEY was actively engaged in supporting National Lutheran Schools Accreditation in our schools, but also working to get this accreditation recognized by Kansas Department of Education.

### **School Ministry**

Lutheran Schools overview: Enrollment over the triennium has increased in Lutheran schools in Kansas, with some seeing record numbers of students. Over the last three years, there have been two new schools started in Kansas (Concordia Academy in Wichita and St. John’s Classical Lutheran School in Topeka), and one school closed (Topeka Lutheran). Two school starts continue forward momentum, including at Ascension, Wichita, and Christ, Manhattan (Classical). There are also other congregations considering school starts at Trinity, Salina; Faith, Ottawa; and First, Sabetha.

Accreditation: The Kansas Department of Education passed a new accreditation process (KESA 2.0) in 2024. The LCMS Kansas District has taken a lead role in working to get the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) automatically recognized with the KSDE accreditation process and recommending Lutheran schools pursue NLSA accreditation.

Since the passage of KESA 2.0, Rev. Daniel Grams has been working with Lutheran schools seeking accreditation with concepts for implementation. With such a new system, the challenge is getting more defined standards from KSDE for KESA 2.0 so NLSA can be aligned.

SGO Development: The State of Kansas passed legislation allowing the development of Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGO) in Kansas in 2024 and the BOEY developed an SGO with the potential to benefit Lutheran school students across Kansas. The Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF) was officially approved in December 2024 after placement of a board of directors and approval of articles of incorporation. KLSSF has already received significant donations to finish out the year 2024. The LCMS Kansas District will promote KLSSF and work with schools to further understand the benefits provided by this opportunity.

### **Youth Ministry**

The Kansas District offers and supports a wide variety of youth ministry efforts in Kansas and nationally. Chaired by Amanda Adams, the Youth Ministry Committee works on planning and coordination for youth events including the Middle School Huddle, state and national youth gatherings, *Higher Things*, Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR), Confirmation Retreat, and YouthLead. The events are meant to equip youth for faithful service to God and His Word, provide training opportunities for youth, and provide settings for youth to experience and demonstrate the mission of the church in word and life.

### **Other Committees**

The BOEY provides oversight for the following committees, which are engaged in various responsibilities:

- Parish Education Committee (Rev. Phil Hoppe, Chair). This newly formed committee worked to strengthen Christian education throughout Kansas, taking the place of the former Adult Education committee and Family Ministry Committee. Regional Marriage Enrichment Workshops were created and hosted around Kansas, and a *Congregation at Prayer* resource was created and made available on the LCMS Kansas District website at <https://kslcms.org/cap>.



- Lutheran Schools Committee (Harmon Butler, Chair). There has been some discussion of replacing the Lutheran Schools Committee with the District Leadership Team.
- Accreditation & NLSA (Jane Limback). Jane Limback works with Lutheran schools on the accreditation process while the District conducts visits with each school to attain accreditation.
- Kansas Association of Independent & Religious Schools (KAIRS) involvement. Dr. Patti Hoffman and Rev. Daniel Grams are involved in this organization which advocates for religious schools in Kansas.
- Early Childhood Consultant (Amy Schultz). Amy Schultz works to develop and offer early childhood conferences, continuing education opportunities and more. An Early Childhood Cabinet was created in 2023.
- Professional Development Committee (Lottie Lee, Chair). Lottie Lee assists in the advancement of professional development activities with the educators of the LCMS Kansas District Lutheran schools and works with the Professional Development Committee to encourage educators towards the achievement of teacher licensure with the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE).

### Looking Forward to the Next Triennium

The BOEY will continue to work for progress in all of the efforts in which the board is currently involved. A special focus on topics focused on Lutheran education and youth in Kansas have been prioritized with overtures for consideration at the 2025 Convention:

- To promote KLSSF by disseminating information on the program to members and communities and encouraging financial donations to the foundation.
- To encourage participation in NLSA by our Lutheran schools, while the BOEY will petition the State Board of Education to recognize NLSA as a valid accreditation model for Lutheran schools in Kansas.
- Pray for and encourage our youth and adults to consider full-time church work vocations, using the resources and direction of the *Set Apart to Serve* program.

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## Caring Ministry

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### Board of Caring Ministry

The Board of Caring Ministry (BOCM) has six committees that cover the responsibilities of the BOCM. These committees are the District Disaster Response, Parish Nurse Ministry, Church Worker Care, Older Adult Ministry, Pastor's Wives' Retreat and Life Ministry. The BOCM will also work with any Convention resolutions that fall under its responsibilities. The main topics the BOCM worked on during the last triennium are highlighted in the reports below.

#### ***Faith at Work***

The Board of Caring Ministry formed a committee, *Faith at Work*, to address the 2022 resolution (Resolution 22-03-02 To offer a Districtwide Model for Christ-Centered Community Service). The committee developed a program similar to the Missouri District program called Shine. The *Faith at Work* program encourages churches, schools and youth groups throughout the District to have an ongoing annual servant event during the month of April. April of 2024 was the first Districtwide servant event.

A summary of that event is listed below:

- 2024 *Faith at Work* had 54 registered servant event projects. More than 2,000 individuals participated throughout the Kansas District. Five of the projects were conducted by Lutheran schools. The rest of the projects were conducted by church organizations and groups. The age of participants ranges from preschoolers to senior citizens. Over 1,600 T-shirts were given out to the various local servant events. 14 of the 16 Kansas District circuits had at least one servant event project. Circuit 16 had the most projects, totaling 11 projects.
- The top three categories for servant events were:
  1. Hands-on and Physical – 39%
  2. Neighborly and Hospitable – 27%
  3. Creative and Crafty – 15%





#### News and Updates:

- Brian Mead, (*NE Team*) picked up 100 Flood Buckets from the Kansas District Office on Oct. 3, 2024, for transport to Johnson City, TN. He was tentatively scheduled to return to Valdosta, GA in the third week of October to help with tree cleanup in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene.
- Oklahoma Tornado response: Two LERT volunteers responded to tornado cleanup in Oklahoma; Ira Walker and his friend from St. John's in Lincolnville.
- With Jim Bradshaw's retirement a shift of reporting and communication is taking place regarding Disasters & Critical Incidents.
- Mark Trivilino: Mark, a foundational LERT volunteer, retired in January 2025. Mark's commitment, passion, experience and dedication to service has been instrumental in putting the Kansas District on the map for LERT and Disaster Response. His contributions have helped create our policies and procedures, training format, Guideline for Sequence of Disaster and countless other things too numerous to mention. He serves as the Training Coordinator and Team Leader for the Gardner/NE LERT Team. He will be greatly missed.

Ongoing work includes widening reach across the Kansas District by growing LERT's presence through recruitment and team building; partnering with neighboring districts to provide concise and intentional training to a larger pool of volunteers, and helping existing teams integrate their LERT training into the everyday life of the church.

#### **Parish Nurse Ministry - Mary Hume**

District activities include the LWML District Convention (*April 2022, 2024*), Saints Alive After 55 Conference (*July 2024*), and the Pastor's Conference (*October 2024*). The annual District Representative meetings and Parish Nurse Conferences at Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, are also attended. Each year, Jamie Spikes (*on the synodical counsel for Parish Nursing and a member of St Luke's, Manhattan*) and Mary Humes present a break-out session at the annual Parish Nurse Conferences in May. There are quarterly meetings of the District Representative via Zoom and participation in the Lutheran Parish Nurse International (LPNI) Study Tours.

#### Other activities include:

- Annually check if Kansas Parish Nurse maintains an active registered nurse's license. If necessary, relate to the individual the requirements to be a Parish Nurse.
- A quarterly newsletter titled *Kansas Parish Nurse Newsletter* that is sent to the Parish Nurses in Kansas, the District Representatives, the District Staff, the Older Adult Ministry Committee, and the Caring Committee. The focus of the newsletters is on events that Parish Nurses would be interested in.
- The Parish Nursing Notes are published quarterly by the Parish Nurse Education Team. The articles are written by fellow Parish Nurses throughout the United States and internationally. The focus is health topics. This is sent to the Parish Nurses in the Kansas District.
- Monthly health articles are submitted for the Kansas District *Workers Together* newsletter.

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## **Administration**

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### **Board of Administration**

Board members for 2022-2025 include Dave Bruns, Chair; Rev. Joshua Woelmer, District Secretary; Rev. Andy Keltner; Brad Brunkow, Treasurer; and Heather Williams, Staff Advisor.

### **District Personnel**

The LCMS Kansas District is served by five full-time staff members, two part-time staff members, and an LCEF regional vice president. In March 2023, Rev. Daniel Galchutt accepted the position of LCMS Executive Director of National Missions and in January 2025, James Bradshaw retired after nearly 20 years with the LCMS Kansas District. In September 2023, Rev. Daniel Grams accepted the call to the LCMS Kansas District as the Assistant to the President for Congregational and School Services, a hybrid version of the two previous positions. DCE Miriam Wehling was called in October 2024 as the Youth Ministry Coordinator and School Services Assistant.

Mike Grau serves as our volunteer District archivist. This triennium, Mike has continued updating and integrating the archives on our District website.

Brad Brunkow was appointed District Treasurer following the 2022 Convention. Throughout the triennium, Brad has provided valuable advice to the District Board of Directors and to the Board of Administration.

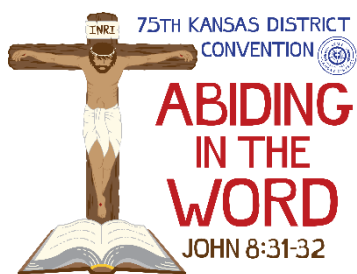












# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## NOMINATIONS AND CANDIDATE PROFILES

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**NOMINATIONS REPORT**  
**District Secretary, Rev. Joshua J. Woelmer**

The following nominations were submitted to the District Secretary by the congregations of the Kansas District and were reviewed and tabulated by the Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee is not part of the nominations process for the offices of President, Vice-President, and Circuit Visitor.

As our Bylaws currently state, the term of office for District President is three years, and he may serve four terms. The Vice-Presidents, Secretary, members of the Board of Directors, and Circuit Visitors are elected for three-year terms; an incumbent may succeed himself twice (for a total of nine years). The members of the Nominating Committee only serve one term. **There is a resolution before the Convention that proposes extending the term limits for all elected positions (except the Nominating Committee) to four terms.** Resolutions go into effect the moment they are passed, so there will be some termed-out incumbents who will be eligible for a fourth term if (and only if) the resolution passes. They have been noted as such below.

The Convention may alter or add to the nominated slates. The amendment procedure shall include a motion, second, and a vote on the amendment. There shall be no discussion of the amendment except for the chair to determine that the requirements for filing of the Biography and Consent form and eligibility have been met. Any delegate making a nominating amendment from the floor shall have secured the Biography and Consent form from the nominee prior to making the nomination and shall submit this document to the Secretary immediately upon making the nominating amendment.

The following is a listing of those who received nominations in alphabetical order by last name, along with the number of nominations that each individual received. Those names in *italic type* have declined the nomination. Names in **bold type** are those that will appear on the Convention ballot. Incumbents are signified by an asterisk (\*).

**PRESIDENT**

Candidates for District President are nominated by ballot by the congregations of the District. The nominee must be on the clergy roster of the Synod. Only the three individuals receiving the most nominations may be listed on the Convention ballot.

**\*Rev. Justin Panzer - 14**

**VICE-PRESIDENTS**

Candidates for District Vice-President are nominated by the congregations of the region that they represent. They must be on the clergy roster of the Synod. The Convention as a body elects the four Vice-Presidents. After the four Vice-Presidents are elected, a ranking ballot will be provided to designate the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Vice-President, in order of succession.

Vice-President, Region 1

**Rev. David Kahle - 1**

**Rev. Andrew Wehling - 2**

Vice-President, Region 2

**\*Rev. Alan Stahlecker - 5**

Vice-President, Region 3

*Rev. Aaron Filipek - 1*

**Rev. Scott Goltl - 1**

**\*Rev. Michael Schotte - 3**

Vice-President, Region 4

**\*Rev. Michael Hageman - 5**

## SECRETARY

Each congregation or individuals (rostered workers and individual members of congregations) may nominate one (1) pastor who is on the clergy roster of the District and holds membership in a voting congregation of the District.

**Rev. Christian Schultz** - 1  
**\*Rev. Joshua Woelmer** - 3

## COMMISSIONED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each congregation or individuals (rostered workers and individual members of congregations) may nominate individuals who are on the commissioned roster of the District and holds membership in a voting congregation of the District. Three (3) positions are available, irrespective of region membership.

**Christopher Dehning** - 1  
**\*Rachel Goodpasture** - 1  
*\*Rick Hanebutt* (termed-out incumbent who has declined further nomination)  
**Whitney Howard** - 1  
*Ron Lenz* - 1  
*\*Sue Kleber* (termed-out incumbent who may be eligible)  
**Deac. Bethany Stoeber** - 1  
*Cheryl Voss* - 1  
**Paul White** - 1

## LAY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGIONAL AND AT-LARGE

Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate up to two (2) lay members who are presently members of a congregation in the respective region as candidate for regional lay member of the Board of Directors. Candidates shall be at least the two (2) lay members in the region who receive the greatest number of nominations and agree to serve if elected. All candidates not elected shall be on the ballot for the at-large lay positions on the Board of Directors. Lay members not designated by region (at-large) may be nominated by congregations, rostered workers, or individual members of congregations. There are three (3) lay at-large positions available, for a total of seven (7) lay members of the Board of Directors. The double asterisk (\*\*) indicates an at-large incumbent who has been nominated for a regional position.

Board of Directors Lay, Region 1

*\*David Bruns* (termed-out incumbent who may be eligible)  
**Michael (Duke) Koerperich** - 1  
**\*\*Marvin Schulteis** - 1

Board of Directors Lay, Region 2

*\*Bruce Schultz* (termed-out incumbent who may be eligible)  
**Scott Bokelman** - 1  
**David Meisinger** - 1  
**\*\*Dan Thalmann** - 2

Board of Directors Lay, Region 3

**\*Curt Engelbrecht** - 3

Board of Directors Lay, Region 4

**Jay Meyer** - 1  
**\*Mark Wolters** - 4

Board of Directors Lay, At-Large

**Brian Smith** - 1  
**Kara Titus** - 1

## 2025 DISTRICT NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The District Nominations Committee consists of three (3) ordained ministers (not more than one [1] from the same region of the District), one (1) commissioned minister, and four (4) laypersons (one [1] elected

from each region of the District.) As an ad hoc committee, limitations on holding multiple offices do not apply, but members may not succeed themselves (they may only serve one term).

Ordained (Region)

- Rev. Aaron Filipek* (3) - 1
- Rev. Dennis Kootz* (2) - 1
- Rev. Van Edward Mease** (3) - 1
- Rev. Michael Schmidt** (4) - 1
- Rev. Andrew Wehling** (1) - 1

Commissioned

- Sue Kleber** - 1
- Kathy Bartels** - 1

Lay (Region)

- Michael Bachelor** (1) - 1
- Jay Meyer** (4) - 1
- Daniel Snyder** (3) - 1
- Stephen Weller** (2) - 1

**2026 SYNOD CONVENTION NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

There shall be one (1) member and one (1) alternate elected by every other District Convention, also alternating between a professional church worker and a layperson, as outlined in LCMS Bylaws 3.12.3. They shall serve on the Synod committee to review incoming nominations and select candidates for all elective offices, boards, and commissions except President, First Vice-President, and Regional Vice-Presidents. The 2025 Kansas District Convention is responsible for electing one (1) member and one (1) alternate professional church worker (ordained or commissioned). Nominations may come from congregations or individuals (rostered workers and individual members of congregations). Because this is a Synod-level committee, there is no conflict with concurrently holding a District office or position.

- Rev. Daniel Grams** - 3
- Rev. Van Edward Mease** - 1
- Rev. Michael Schmidt** - 1
- Rev. Alan Stahlecker** - 1

**CIRCUIT VISITORS**

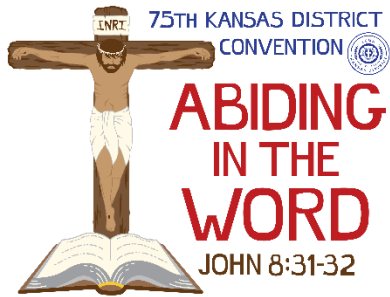
The following is a list of those elected by circuit forums for the office of Circuit Visitor. These names will appear on the ballot for ratification by the Convention.

<b>Circuit Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Church/School, Place</b>
# 1	Rev. Ian Kinney	First, Sabetha
# 2	Rev. Jason Boetcher	Trinity Family of Faith, Basehor
# 3N	Rev. Joel Schultz	Beautiful Savior, Olathe
# 3S	Rev. James (Andy) Keltner	Christ Our Savior, Louisburg
# 4	Rev. Timothy Booth	St. John, Aliceville
# 5	Rev. Matthew Jennings	St. Peter, Humboldt
# 6	Rev. Sean Kilgo	Redeemer, Lawrence
# 7	Rev. William Wingfield, retired	Linn
# 8	Rev. James Woelmer	Christ, Manhattan
# 9	Rev. Kurt Letcher	Zion, Newton
# 10	Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer	Ascension, Wichita
# 11	Rev. Michael Brockman, Chaplain	Concordia Academy, Wichita
# 12	Rev. Troy Slater	Immanuel, Canton
# 13	Rev. Christopher Craig	Bethlehem, Sylvan Grove
# 15	Rev. Phil Hoppe	Trinity, Colby
# 16	Rev. Jason Toombs	Grace, Liberal/Peace, Beaver, OK

## **REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE FOR DISTRICT CONVENTION**

Nominating Committee members were all contacted initially by the District Secretary, Rev. Joshua Woelmer, in October 2024. During our initial internet meeting on November 7, 2024, Rev. Sean Kilgo was elected as committee chair. The committee reviewed its duties and the positions to be filled on the slate of candidates. The committee met again on December 6, 2024, after the deadline for nominations closed. The committee verified names and positions to ensure that all positions would have valid and enough nominees for each position on the ballot. Further calls went out to fill out positions yet needed on the ballot. The initial request for Biography and Consent forms from the list of nominees was sent electronically later that month. Our third committee meeting was held January 24, 2024, to review the list of nominees who had accepted the nomination and ensure that we had sufficient names per position to complete a full slate. Several calls were made to finalize these details. Final email votes were conducted to finalize the ballots.

Committee members are Rev. Sean Kilgo, Ordained, Region 1; Rev. Troy Slater, Ordained, Region 2; Rev. Michael Hageman, Ordained, Region 4; Bethany Johnson, Commissioned, Region 1; Kevin Fredrickson, Lay, Region 1; Phillip Friedrichs, Lay, Region 2; Kenneth Wabel, Lay, Region 3; Brad Persinger, Lay, Region 4; and (advisory) Rev. Joshua Woelmer, Secretary of the Kansas District.



# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## Ballot 1

(If overture 25-04-01 fails) Incumbent members are noted with (I) following their name.

### ❖ PRESIDENT

Rev. Justin Panzer, Christ, Manhattan (I)

### ❖ VICE-PRESIDENTS (4)

#### Region 1

Rev. David Kahle, Redeemer, Olathe  
Rev. Andrew Wehling, Immanuel, Lawrence

#### Region 2

Rev. Alan Stahlecker, St. John, Lincolnville (I)

#### Region 3

Rev. Scott Goltl, Ascension, Wichita  
Rev. Michael Schotte, St. Paul, Preston (I)

#### Region 4

Rev. Michael Hageman, Trinity, Garden City (I)

### ❖ SECRETARY

Rev. Christian Schultz, First, Paola  
Rev. Joshua Woelmer, Trinity, Paola (I)

### ❖ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*NOTE: Candidates for regional lay members of the Board of Directors who are not elected shall be on the ballot for the at-large lay positions on the Board of Directors.*

#### COMMISSIONED MINISTERS (3)

Christopher Dehning, Trinity, Winfield  
Rachel Goodpasture, Trinity, Atchison (I)  
Whitney Howard, St. John, Alma  
Deac. Bethany Stoeber, Immanuel, Hepler and Good Shepherd, Erie  
Paul White, Mt. Calvary, Wamego

#### REGIONAL LAY MEMBERS (4; one from each region)

##### Region 1

Michael (Duke) Koerperich, First, Sabetha  
Marvin Schulteis, Redeemer, Lawrence (I)

##### Region 2

Scott Bokelman, Zion, Linn  
David Meisinger, Grace, McPherson

##### Region 3

Curtis Engelbrecht, Trinity, Wichita (I)

##### Region 4

Jay Meyer, Trinity, Garden City  
Mark Wolters, Redeemer, Atwood (I)

#### LAY MEMBER AT LARGE

Brian Smith, Immanuel, Canton  
Kara Titus, Christ, Manhattan

### ❖ DISTRICT NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CLERGY (3; no two from same region)

Rev. Ed Mease, Region 3, Emeritus  
Rev. Michael Schmidt, Region 4  
Peace, Natoma and First, Plainville  
Rev. Andrew Wehling, Region 1,  
Immanuel, Lawrence

#### COMMISSIONED MINISTER (1 position)

Kathy Bartels, St. John's, Topeka  
Sue Kleber, Holy Cross, Wichita

#### REGIONAL LAY MEMBERS (4; one from each region)

Michael Bachelor, Region 1, First, Sabetha  
Jay Meyer, Region 4, Trinity, Garden City  
Daniel Snyder, Region 3, Immanuel, Wichita  
Stephen Weller, Region 2, Grace, McPherson

### ❖ SYNOD CONVENTION

#### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

#### DELEGATE and ALTERNATE (church worker, ordained or commissioned)

Rev. Daniel Grams, Beautiful Savior, Olathe  
Rev. Ed Mease, Emeritus  
Rev. Michael Schmidt,  
Peace, Natoma and First, Plainville  
Rev. Alan Stahlecker, St. John, Lincolnville

## CIRCUIT VISITORS

*Elected at 2024 fall circuit forums (or appointed thereafter); list to be ratified by the District Convention.*

### **Region 1**

Circuit 1 Rev. Ian Kinney (I)  
Circuit 2 Rev. Jason Boetcher (I)  
Circuit 3N Rev. Joel Schultz (I)  
Circuit 3S Rev. James (Andy) Keltner (I)  
Circuit 4 Rev. Timothy Booth  
Circuit 6 Rev. Sean Kilgo (I)

### **Region 2**

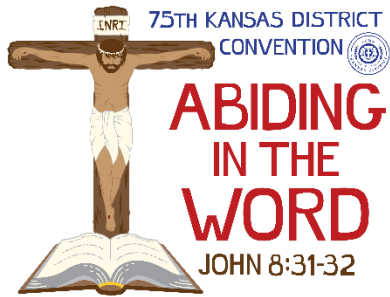
Circuit 7 Rev. William Wingfield  
Circuit 8 Rev. James Woelmer  
Circuit 9 Rev. Kurt Letcher (I)  
Circuit 12 Rev. Troy Slater

### **Region 3**

Circuit 5 Rev. Matthew Jennings  
Circuit 10 Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer (I)  
Circuit 11 Rev. Michael Brockman

### **Region 4**

Circuit 13 Rev. Christopher Craig (I)  
Circuit 15 Rev. Philip Hoppe  
Circuit 16 Rev. Jason Toombs (I)



# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## Ballot 2

(if **overture 25-04-01** passes) Incumbent members are noted with **(I)** following their name. Those added due to the **overture** passing are noted with **\*** before their name.

### ❖ PRESIDENT

Rev. Justin Panzer, Christ, Manhattan (I)

### ❖ VICE-PRESIDENTS (4)

#### Region 1

Rev. David Kahle, Redeemer, Olathe  
Rev. Andrew Wehling, Immanuel, Lawrence

#### Region 2

Rev. Alan Stahlecker, St. John, Lincolnville (I)

#### Region 3

Rev. Scott Goltl, Ascension, Wichita  
Rev. Michael Schotte, St. Paul, Preston (I)

#### Region 4

Rev. Michael Hageman, Trinity, Garden City (I)

### ❖ SECRETARY

Rev. Christian Schultz, First, Paola  
Rev. Joshua Woelmer, Trinity, Paola (I)

### ❖ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*NOTE: Candidates for regional lay members of the Board of Directors who are not elected shall be on the ballot for the at-large lay positions on the Board of Directors.*

#### COMMISSIONED MINISTERS (3)

Christopher Dehning, Trinity, Winfield  
Rachel Goodpasture, Trinity, Atchison (I)  
Whitney Howard, St. John, Alma  
\*Sue Kleber, Holy Cross, Wichita (I)  
Deac. Bethany Stoeber, Immanuel, Hepler and Good Shepherd, Erie  
Paul White, Mt. Calvary, Wamego

#### REGIONAL LAY MEMBERS (4; one from each region)

##### Region 1

\*David Bruns, Christ, Overland Park (I)  
Michael (Duke) Koerperich, First, Sabetha  
Marvin Schulteis, Redeemer, Lawrence (I)

#### Region 2

Scott Bokelman, Zion, Linn  
David Meisinger, Grace, McPherson  
\*Bruce Schultz, St. John, Alma (I)

#### Region 3

Curtis Engelbrecht, Trinity, Wichita (I)

#### Region 4

Jay Meyer, Trinity, Garden City  
Mark Wolters, Redeemer, Atwood (I)

#### LAY MEMBER AT LARGE

Brian Smith, Immanuel, Canton  
Kara Titus, Christ, Manhattan

### ❖ DISTRICT NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CLERGY (3; no two from same region)

Rev. Ed Mease, Region 3, Emeritus  
Rev. Michael Schmidt, Region 4  
Peace, Natoma and First, Plainville  
Rev. Andrew Wehling, Region 1,  
Immanuel, Lawrence

#### COMMISSIONED MINISTER (1 position)

Kathy Bartels, St. John's, Topeka  
Sue Kleber, Holy Cross, Wichita

#### REGIONAL LAY MEMBERS (4; one from each region)

Michael Bachelor, Region 1, First, Sabetha  
Jay Meyer, Region 4, Trinity, Garden City  
Daniel Snyder, Region 3, Immanuel, Wichita  
Stephen Weller, Region 2, Grace, McPherson

### ❖ SYNOD CONVENTION NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

#### DELEGATE and ALTERNATE (church worker, ordained or commissioned)

Rev. Daniel Grams, Beautiful Savior, Olathe  
Rev. Ed Mease, Emeritus  
Rev. Michael Schmidt,  
Peace, Natoma and First, Plainville  
Rev. Alan Stahlecker, St. John, Lincolnville



## CIRCUIT VISITORS

*Elected at 2024 fall circuit forums (or appointed thereafter); list to be ratified by the District Convention.*

### **Region 1**

Circuit 1 Rev. Ian Kinney (I)  
Circuit 2 Rev. Jason Boetcher (I)  
Circuit 3N Rev. Joel Schultz (I)  
Circuit 3S Rev. James (Andy) Keltner (I)  
Circuit 4 Rev. Timothy Booth  
Circuit 6 Rev. Sean Kilgo (I)

### **Region 2**

Circuit 7 Rev. William Wingfield  
Circuit 8 Rev. James Woelmer  
Circuit 9 Rev. Kurt Letcher (I)  
Circuit 12 Rev. Troy Slater

### **Region 3**

Circuit 5 Rev. Matthew Jennings  
Circuit 10 Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer (I)  
Circuit 11 Rev. Michael Brockman

### **Region 4**

Circuit 13 Rev. Christopher Craig (I)  
Circuit 15 Rev. Philip Hoppe  
Circuit 16 Rev. Jason Toombs (I)

## CANDIDATE PROFILES

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### **PRESIDENT**

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**Name:** Justin Allan Panzer

**Home Congregation:** Christ, Manhattan

**Email:** [kspres@kslcms.org](mailto:kspres@kslcms.org)

**Years Ordained:** 22

**Address:** 2206 Willow Creek Lane, Wamego, KS 66547

**Phone:** (785) 357-4441

**Years in the District:** 22

**Occupation:** LCMS KS District President

**Education:** Lewis High School, Lewis, KS (graduated May 1992); Hutchinson Community College, Hutchinson, KS (graduated May 1994 with Associate of Arts); University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (graduated December 1996 with Bachelor of Science in Education); Westfield House, Cambridge, England (1999–2000, seminary exchange program); Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (graduated May 2003 with Master of Divinity); DOXOLOGY - The Lutheran Center for Spiritual Care and Counsel (2013–2014); Mental Health First Aid USA Certified (2016-Present); ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) Certified 2018-Present.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, Abilene, KS (July 2003-January 2020); Vacancy Pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church, Herington, KS (October 2013-June 2014); LCMS Kansas District President (August 2019-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District and Synod:** Kansas District Church Worker Committee (2003-2004 and 2013-2015); Circuit 9 Pastoral Delegate, 2007 Synod Convention, Houston, TX; Kansas District Educational Loan Repayment Committee (2007-2019); 2009 Kansas District Convention Caring Ministry Committee Chair; Circuit 9 Pastoral Delegate, 2010 Synod Convention, Houston, TX; Circuit 9 Pastoral Delegate, 2013 Synod Convention, St. Louis, MO; Circuit 9 Pastoral Delegate, 2016 Synod Convention, Milwaukee, WI; Circuit 9 Pastoral Delegate, 2019 Synod Convention, Tampa, FL; Vacancy Pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church, Herington, KS (October 2013-June 2014); Kansas District Region 2 Vice-President (June 2014-July 2019); LCMS Kansas District President (August 2019-Present).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Abilene Kiwanis Club (2003-2004); Dickinson County Quality of Life Coalition Committee Member (2004-2007); Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University class coordinator (three times); City of Abilene Recreation Commission committee member (2007-2019); City of Abilene Recreation Commission Vice-Chairman (2011-2019); Dickinson County Relay for Life volunteer (2010); Salina Rescue Mission pastoral volunteer (2010-2019); City of Abilene rec youth coach (2011-2016); Kansans for Life (2019-Present).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** The mission of the LCMS Kansas District is to "support and encourage the members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His Church." We have a wonderful message to "Proclaim, Teach, and Share" as His baptized royal priests. We have exactly what this hurting and dying world needs to possess right now. To that end, it has been my privilege to serve as District President since August 2019. I have striven to work with the church workers and congregations of the District in a timely manner, providing support, counsel, and assistance. It has been a joy to work with the District office staff and the Board of Directors. It has been my privilege to work with the region Vice-Presidents and Circuit Visitors. Kansas is a great place to be and to do ministry. I would be honored to serve if elected for the next triennium.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Looking ahead to the next triennium, as the Lord grants opportunity, it is my prayer to lead the Kansas District toward the following vision targets:

- 1) Abiding in the Word (John 8:31-32). In our churches, we hear God's Word, receive His grace, offer Him our prayers and thanks, and encourage one another. Our District works to ensure that Word and Sacrament ministry thrives in Kansas and beyond.
- 2) Connecting in Christ (Romans 12:5). God's Church is a fellowship of believers, called to encourage and care for one another and work together for the good of God's kingdom. Strengthening ties with our "partners in the Gospel" is a high priority.
- 3) Equipping the Saints (Ephesians 4:12). As God's baptized, we study His Word, training ourselves for godliness (1 Timothy 4:7). In the Kansas District, we provide our congregations, schools, and affiliated organizations with the resources they need to equip themselves and others, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to stay strong in the faith.
- 4) Engaging in Christ's Mission (Matthew 28:19-20). The royal priesthood has been given a charge: show God's love to others, help your neighbor in need, and share the Good News. The District seeks to support these activities in Kansas and abroad.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS

### REGION 1

**Name:** David Kahle

**Home Congregation:** Redeemer, Olathe

**Email:** [pastorkahle@redeemerolathe.org](mailto:pastorkahle@redeemerolathe.org)

**Years Ordained:** 19

**Address:** 800 N Alder St, Gardner, KS 66030

**Phone Number:** (913) 274-5564

**Years in the Kansas District:** 3

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (2005); BSN, University of Nebraska at Kearney (1995); graduate of Kearney High School, Kearney, NE (1987).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Redeemer Lutheran Church in Olathe, KS (Nov. 2021-Present); Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Imperial, NE (June 2005-Nov. 2021).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I have been elected Circuit Visitor, McCook Circuit, Nebraska District, for two terms. I have also served as Vacancy Pastor for three congregations. I was the LWML McCook Zone Counselor in Nebraska. I served as a Chaplain at the Nebraska District LCMS Convention. I was Vicarage Supervisor for 13 Vicars while serving Zion in Imperial, NE.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I am an Army veteran with nine years of service and a veteran of Desert Storm. My previous vocation was as a Registered Nurse. I have served and been President of a local Rotary International Club. I have also served as Secretary and President of a city-run care facility committee. I was Secretary and Treasurer of the Southwest Nebraska Ministerial Association. I have completed the training as a Reconciler through Ambassadors of Reconciliation.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I am interested in supporting and encouraging the mission work of the Kansas District of the LCMS. I also look forward to working with and networking our congregations within our region. I enjoy working with other motivated groups toward their common goals. Our commitment to strong relationships under a solid confession of faith gives us great hope for what God's people will accomplish through Him.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I think the ongoing work of baptizing and teaching the nations right outside our front doors is of the utmost importance. Strong congregations will be a magnet to the erring and the lost. We also must continue to proclaim the truth of God's Word boldly. We need to work without fear of those who hate us and exercise our religious freedoms. We also need to encourage more men to enter the office of the ministry and find ways for churches to work together with fewer pastors and other church workers.

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**Name:** Andrew Wehling  
**Home Congregation:** Immanuel, Lawrence  
**Email:** [revwehling@hotmail.com](mailto:revwehling@hotmail.com)  
**Years Ordained:** 31

**Address:** 2108 E 29th St., Lawrence, KS 66046  
**Phone Number:** (620) 655-2624  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 24

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** 1989 B.S. Elem Ed Concordia University, Nebraska; 1993 M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Vicarage at Bethany, Alexandria, VA (1991-1992); Assistant Pastor at Redeemer, Stuart, FL (1993-1995); Missionary at Large / Pastor at Grace, Port St. Lucie, FL (1993-2000); Pastor at Grace, Liberal, KS (2000-2022); Pastor at Immanuel, Lawrence, KS (2022-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** LWML Zone Counselor (1995-1997); Kansas District Youth Ministry Committee (2010-2016); 2002-2005 Pastoral Delegate LCMS 2013 Convention; Circuit Visitor (2009-2018); Kansas District Convention Floor Committee (2018); Church Worker Care Committee (2018-2022); LCMS PALS Coordinator (2023-Present).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Active in Ministerial Alliance (2000-2022); Cub Scout Den Leader (2006-2009); McCray Community Center Board (2005-2015); Kiwanis Club (2021-2022).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** As a Synod, we are committed to walking together in our common mission to make and strengthen disciples of Jesus Christ through the preaching and teaching of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments. As God enables, I desire to support and encourage this walking together, so that the Light of Christ shines brightly in the Church and out to the world.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** The Church is faced with tremendous challenges. How can we better retain our current members? How do we communicate effectively and faithfully to our increasingly distracted, confused, and religiously apathetic population? How might we connect better with adults in the 18-40 age range? What are ways that we can strengthen our Lutheran schools, and start new ones? How can we speak clearly and boldly regarding God's gifts of life, sexuality, and marriage? May God, the Holy Spirit, strengthen us in faithful, Christ-centered witness!

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## REGION 2

**Name:** Alan Stahlecker  
**Home Congregation:** St. John, Lincolnville  
**Email:** [revalanstahlecker@hotmail.com](mailto:revalanstahlecker@hotmail.com)  
**Years Ordained:** 31

**Address:** P.O. Box 187, Lincolnville, KS 66858  
**Phone Number:** (620) 382-4248  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 31

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (May 1993); Bachelor of Science, Business Administration (Accounting), Adams State College, Alamosa, CO (May 1982); Rangely High School, Rangely, CO (May 1977).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Treasurer, Trinity Lutheran Church, Alamosa, CO (1981-1982); Youth Leader, Peace with Christ Lutheran Church, Ft. Collins, CO (1982-1983); Treasurer, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, CO (1986-1989); Sole Pastor for St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lincolnville, KS (July 1993-Present); Vacancy Pastor for multiple congregations of Circuit 9 (at various times and for varying lengths of time over the last 31+ years).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Circuit Pastoral Delegate to Synod Conventions (2023, 2004, 1995); Circuit Counselor, Circuit 9 (2003- 2012); Herington Zone LWML Pastoral Advisor (1998-2003); Kansas District LWML Pastoral Advisor (2000- 2004); Kansas District Convention Nominating Committee (2022, 2003); Chair of the Kansas District Convention Floor Committee, Life Together (2018); Kansas District Koinonia Project Task Force Chair (2019-2022); Kansas District Region 2 Vice-President (2019-Present); Kansas District Board of Stewardship (2019-Present); Kansas District Retreat Center Task Force (2019-2022, 2024-Present); Synod Convention Floor Committee, Finance (2023).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Treasurer of the Briargate Sertoma Club, Colorado Springs, CO (1986-1989); Lincolnville Fire Department Chaplain (as needed); Centre School Site Council (1996-2008); Coach in Centre School District #397 (2002-2021, 2022-Present).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** While no more qualified than my brother pastors in Region 2 or throughout the District, I have gained experience while serving the District as a Vice-President since I was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2019. If elected, I am willing to serve on the District Board of Directors and/or Synod Convention Nominations Committee to the best of my God-given abilities and as faithfully as I am able.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** By "Abiding in the Word" as we daily live as the baptized in Christ, we are given by the Holy Spirit what is needed to seek to serve the congregations and professional church workers of the Kansas District so that God's Word is faithfully proclaimed to all people for the furtherance of His kingdom. It is my prayer that each of us "abide in His Word," that we live as His disciples, know the truth, and be set free to be His witnesses.

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### REGION 3

**Name:** Scott Goltl

**Address:** 8211 W. Havenhurst Circle, Wichita, KS 67205

**Home Congregation:** Ascension, Wichita

**Phone Number:** (316) 207-3431

**Email:** maplecampus@gmail.com

**Years in the Kansas District:** 31

**Years Ordained:** 31

**Occupation:** Pastor, Director of Discipleship and Education

**Education:** 1985 High School Diploma from Oberlin Community High School; 1989 B.A. in Speech/Drama from Concordia University NE; 1993 M. Div. from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

**Service to Congregation(s):** (1993-Present) I currently serve Ascension in Wichita as the Pastor of Discipleship. I have also served as the Pastor of Outreach. I helped start a second campus with an Open Arms Child Development Center in 2002 and I am currently leading the effort investigating the feasibility of opening a K-5 Lutheran school.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I have served in various ministries in the Circuit and District including outreach, education, singles, married, older adult, campus ministry, children and families.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I have served in our community in various ways, from homeless ministry to education. I have gifts and knowledge in working with technology, social media, and livestreaming.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** There was no one else willing to serve in the role and I was asked if I would consider serving the District. I care about the mission and ministry of the congregations in Kansas and am willing to serve if elected. I have many years of serving in Kansas and have a great love for the Lord's work in this state.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Our congregations will face many challenges in the coming years with aging membership and a need to serve congregations with fewer pastors and church professionals. We will

need leadership, prayer, and focus on our Lord to keep in step with the Spirit and discern how we are to make our way into the new world that we find ourselves in.

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<b>Name:</b> Michael Schotte	<b>Address:</b> 40307 NE 40th Ave., Preston, KS 67583
<b>Home Congregation:</b> St. Paul, Preston	<b>Phone Number:</b> (620) 388-0131
<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:mslcms@sctelcom.net">mslcms@sctelcom.net</a>	<b>Years in the Kansas District:</b> 30
<b>Years Ordained:</b> 34	

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** St. John's College, Winfield, KS (1979-1983); Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (1987-1991).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Our Savior Lutheran Church, Whitney, TX (1991-1995); St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Preston, KS (1995-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Pastoral Delegate to LCMS Conventions (2001, 2004, 2010, 2016); Circuit Counselor, Circuit 14 (2012-2015); former Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League Pastoral Counselor; Kansas District Region Three Vice-President (2022-2025).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Newspaper articles submitted quarterly to Tri-County Tribune for publication (Pratt, Stafford, Kiowa Counties).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Having been nominated for this position, I am willing to serve Christ's Church in the Kansas District with the grace and wisdom He has given. Having served for one term and having learned much about the responsibilities and functions of the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, its Board of Directors, and the duties of its officers, office workers, and committee members, the experience has prepared me for another term if elected.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** There is a strong need to strive for unity in confession and worship practices in our District and in the Synod as a whole. We have a treasury of resources in our Book of Concord, our catechisms, and our hymnals, which strongly support our study and proclamation of God's Word, declaring Jesus Christ the Savior both in worship and in daily life. Let's use them.

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#### REGION 4

<b>Name:</b> Michael Hageman	<b>Address:</b> 502 N 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, Garden City, KS 67846
<b>Home Congregation:</b> Trinity, Garden City; Immanuel, Lakin; Grace, Ulysses	<b>Phone Number:</b> (620) 521-9991
<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hagmission@att.net">hagmission@att.net</a>	<b>Years in the Kansas District:</b> 7
<b>Years Ordained:</b> 20	

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** Master of Divinity, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (2004); Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications, Concordia University, Nebraska (2000); Abilene High School, Abilene, KS (1996).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Began the T.I.G. Ministry: A partnership between three congregations in Southwest Kansas. Led multiple congregational mission and service trips to Haiti, Dominican Republic, Peru and Uganda.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Vice-President of the Kansas District (2022-Present); presentations of the Kansas District's Partnership Project to the South Wisconsin District pastors and to congregations throughout the Kansas District (2022-Present); member of the Kansas District Nominating Committee (2025); served as LWML Zone Counselor in Ohio and

Kansas Districts; LCMS Convention Pastoral Delegate to the 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016 LCMS Conventions.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Board Member of YMCA of Southwest Kansas (2019-2024). Host parent of multiple exchange students from Germany, Italy and Spain.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Having had the honor to serve Region 4 as Vice President of the Kansas District beginning in 2022, I have found great joy in getting to know many of the pastors and congregations throughout much of this great state. There is much to be done and I find excitement in the opportunities to assist in the proclamation of Christ Crucified to our people in the pews and to those in our communities. It is in this joy found in Christ alone that I would be honored to serve western Kansas in the struggles and joys of ministry.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** The Kansas District's mission is to "support and encourage members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His Church." Connected to this mission is this year's convention theme "Abiding in the Word." It is within this conviction that I believe our District should continue to guide our congregations in knowing the "Truth" and direct our energies to live out a "set free life" so that we may better "Engage in Christ's Mission." This would require us to refocus on vocational living, connecting the young to our rich theology, creating faithful multi-ethnic ministries and planting confessional churches.

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## SECRETARY

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**Name:** Christian Schultz

**Home Congregation:** First, Paola

**Email:** [pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org](mailto:pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org)

**Years Ordained:** 3

**Address:** 18612 W 319th St., Paola, KS 66071

**Phone Number:** (785) 313-4633

**Years in the Kansas District:** 3

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** 2016 B.A. History from Concordia University, Nebraska; 2020 M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; ongoing S.T.M. from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Pastor at First, Paola (2021-Present); Vacancy Pastor at Trinity (Block), Paola (2023).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Member of the Constitution & Bylaws Review Committee (2022-Present); member of the District Operations Manual Review Committee (2022); Pastoral Voting Delegate to the Kansas District Convention; Pastoral Voting Delegate to the LCMS Convention (2023); Director of the Confirmation Retreat and member of Kansas District Youth Ministry Team (2023-Present); member of the Kansas District Conference Planning Committee (2024-Present).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Participant in the Kansas March for Life (2024, 2023, 2022); featured in a video for the Kansas District Convention under "Proclaim" (2022); volunteered for the Kansas District Youth Ministry Team (2015-16).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** The District Secretary works to ensure there is clear, consistent, and timely communication within the District. His work with congregations, circuits, boards, and leadership committees is vital to a healthy District. In my experience working with Rev. Joshua Woelmer, he has done excellent work in this capacity and has my full support as he continues working as District Secretary.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** The mission of the church is always the same: preach Christ and Him

crucified. In our day when families are broken, divorces are commonplace, marriages struggle, and catechesis is lacking, it is important for Christians to support these foundational institutions. God has ordered His creation, blessed marriage, sanctified our homes, and encouraged procreation. In Christ, in His incarnation, life, death, and resurrection, God restores His creation. Let us continue to preach Christ and Him crucified as we support marriages, homes, and families through the next triennium.

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**Name:** Joshua Woelmer  
**Home Congregation:** Trinity, Paola  
**Email:** [joshua.woelmer@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.woelmer@gmail.com)  
**Years Ordained:** 8

**Address:** 34838 Block Rd., Paola, KS 66071  
**Phone Number:** (785) 893-3960  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 8

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** B.A., Pre-Seminary studies and theological languages, Concordia University Wisconsin (2010); M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (2015).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Vassar (2016-2023); Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Paola (2023-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Kansas District Constitution and Bylaws Committee (2018-Present); Kansas District Nominations Committee (2019-2022); District Convention Elections Committee Chair (2022); Kansas District Secretary (2022-Present); Kansas District Executive Committee (2022-Present); Kansas District Board of Administration (2022-Present); Kansas District Salary Review Committee (2022-Present); Synod Task Force for Circuit Realignment Secretary (2023-Present).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I have interacted with and assisted the local county Help House as well as the LifeCare Center in their services to our area. I was a graduate assistant for my seminary's quarterly theological journal and received editing experience, which has proved helpful for the Constitution Committee and elsewhere.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** "All things should be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:40) applies not only to worship, but also to our lives together as the priesthood of all believers. I have served one term so far as District Secretary, and it has given me insight into our congregations and the work of the District. I hope to continue to assist our congregations further in their faithful ministry of Word and Sacrament so that more may hear and believe.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** It is the Word of God that creates faith. When we abide in God's Word, we are Jesus' disciples. This Word of God is written for us in Holy Scripture, proclaimed from the pulpit and taught in classrooms, and is present in the Sacraments. It is important for the District to support this abiding in the Word in congregations of God's people, pastors who proclaim the Word, teachers and DCEs who teach and minister, and mission work here in Kansas and abroad; for God "desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4).

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## COMMISSIONED KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Name:** Chris Dehning  
**Home Congregation:** Trinity, Winfield  
**Email:** [chris.dehning@gmail.com](mailto:chris.dehning@gmail.com)  
**Years Commissioned:** 15

**Address:** 1 Fleetwood Dr, Winfield, KS 67156  
**Phone Number:** (402) 613-2456  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 4

**Occupation:** Principal



**Education:** Bachelors in Secondary Education; Social Science Field Endorsement; Lutheran Teaching Diploma from Concordia University, Nebraska (2010); Masters in Elementary Administration from Concordia University, Nebraska (2019).

**Service to Congregation(s):** I currently serve as Principal at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Winfield, Kansas. This is my fourth year at Trinity. I have been the 5/6 homeroom teacher for my first three years, and now that we are fully staffed and have added 7th and 8th grade back to the school after 20+ years, I have moved to more of an administrative role. I still teach all upper grades for math, and 1/2 religion class, as well as tutor students who need extra help. I also help direct the school Christmas program and the Spring Musical each year. I am a member of the church choir and enjoy sharing my talents by playing my trumpet for church year festivals and other special occasions. I previously served at Lutheran schools in Missouri, Minnesota, and Illinois.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** For the last three years, I have been a member of the Lutheran Schools Committee that meets twice a year to coordinate all aspects of education for the Kansas District. This year I am the Chair of the committee. I also served on one National Lutheran Schools Accreditation visitation team in the District last year, and am on another team this coming April. I previously served on two NLSA visitation teams in Illinois and led two schools through NLSA accreditation as the School Administrator in Minnesota and Illinois. I served once as a Community Life Builder at the New Orleans LCMS Youth Gathering in 2016. I worked as lead CLB at my hotel leading daily morning meetings for adult leaders, and traffic for Bible studies and mass events.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** The Trinity Lutheran School 5-8 grade classes regularly volunteer at Orphan Grain Train in Wichita and also have a close relationship with the Winfield Food Pantry. The past two years we have donated over 1,400 items to the food pantry after intentional efforts during National Lutheran Schools Week. I also help coordinate workdays at the school before the school year begins. We enlist the help of both school and church members to help get the school ready for the students and teachers. As I mentioned before, a special gift of mine would be my trumpet playing for church. I am by no means a professional, but I do enjoy sharing that gift with the congregation at worship services and visitors at funerals. Throughout my years of ministry, I have also helped at LCMS district camps such as Camp Omega in Minnesota, Heit's Point in Missouri, and Camp Cilca in Illinois.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I am interested in serving in this position because of the importance of having a commissioned minister presence on the District Board. There are times when I feel there is not enough input from the commissioned side of ministry. If there is a way that I can improve this, then I should strive for that. I also understand the importance of serving the church, and not only that, but having a willingness to serve.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I believe a priority of the Kansas District needs to be on education. With one Lutheran school closing at the end of this school year and another headed in that direction, there needs to be more support and effort put toward keeping schools open. We do not have the luxury of many Lutheran schools being options for our Kansas families like some other districts do. Therefore, it is imperative that we pursue ways to provide more support for our congregations with schools, and support for the administrators and teachers at those schools.

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**Name:** Rachel Goodpasture  
**Home Congregation:** Trinity, Atchison  
**Email:** [rachel.micheel@cune.org](mailto:rachel.micheel@cune.org)  
**Years Commissioned:** 16

**Address:** 504 Laurel Drive, Atchison, KS 66002  
**Phone Number:** (913) 426-4007  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 16

**Occupation:** Stay-at-Home Mom

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a concentration in music from Concordia University, Nebraska (2009); Master's in Education as a Reading Specialist from Fort Hays State University (2014).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Teacher at Trinity Lutheran School for eight years, member of the 150th Church Anniversary Planning Committee, member of the 150th School Anniversary Committee, Secretary for the Trinity Lutheran School Day School Committee, member of the Altar Guild, Co-Chair of the Sunday School Christmas program.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I have attended many District Conventions as an Advisory Delegate and have also served on two floor committees for previous District Conventions. I became a member of the Children and Family Life Committee for the District in 2017 and served on that committee through 2021. It then transitioned to the Parish Education Committee, which I am still a part of. In 2023, I was elected by the Board of Directors to finish a term for a commissioned minister on the District Board of Directors. I am also the Secretary of the Stewardship Committee for the District.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** In this season of life, my community service and special gifts include raising our seven, five, three, and one-year old children to be godly and productive members of society. This includes being an active part of TEAM Falcon (our parent/teacher league). Currently, I am the Vice President and help to plan and carry out family events and fundraisers during the school year. One of my favorite parts of this group is helping to pop popcorn for all the students on the last Friday of every month!

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Continuing to serve on the Board of Directors would be an honor and a privilege I would not take lightly. Being in the Kansas District and taking advantage of the wonderful opportunities it has offered has helped me grow as a wife, mother, and church worker. I would very much be pleased to help continue the fantastic work our District does for its people.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Encouraging congregations to host learning and fellowship opportunities within their circuits is important to me. Equipping our families to teach the faith at home by first educating the parents will help us to grow and maintain a Lutheran identity. Promoting the newly formed Scholarship Granting Organization is also a priority in order to raise funds so more children can be educated for a reasonable rate in a Lutheran school.

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**Name:** Whitney Howard  
**Home Congregation:** St. John, Alma  
**Email:** [whollestjohnalma@gmail.com](mailto:whollestjohnalma@gmail.com)  
**Years Commissioned:** 12

**Address:** 319 W. 8th St, Alma, KS 66401  
**Phone Number:** (785) 268-0078  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 9

**Occupation:** Lutheran School Teacher

**Education:** BS Elementary Education (CUNE 2013); BS Early Childhood Education (CUNE 2013); LTD (CUNCE 2013); Certificate of Trauma and Resilience (CUNE 2024).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Altar Guild, Confirmation Mentor, Anniversary Planning Committee.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** LERT

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Softball coach

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I will bring a fresh viewpoint to this position. I have been teaching in a Lutheran school for 12 years, ranging from Preschool to Special Education 8th graders and in a multi-grade classroom. I see the struggles facing both our schools and our families in an age demographic where our congregations are low. I have constant contact with parents and children to gain knowledge of what they need to best serve them.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I believe that outreach to the communities we are in is essential to both

maintain and build our churches and schools. Education was a major focus of Martin Luther who believed our schools help to spread God's word to many children who otherwise would not have been reached. I also believe that ministry is an action verb, not a passive verb, and therefore involves doing.

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**Name:** Susan (Sue) Kleber  
**Congregation:** Holy Cross, Wichita  
**E-mail Address:** [skkleber@aol.com](mailto:skkleber@aol.com)  
**Year Commissioned:** 1975

**Address:** 8711 E. 44<sup>th</sup> St. N., Wichita, KS 67226  
**Phone Number:** (316) 682-1894 (Landline)  
**Years in Kansas:** 32

**Occupation:** Educator

**Education:** M.S. in Education, Concordia University, Seward, NE; B.S. in Education and Lutheran Teachers Diploma, Concordia University, Seward, NE; K-12 Certification in Spanish, Friends University, Wichita, KS; PS-8 Administrative (Building) Certification, Concordia University, Seward, NE; K-12 Certification in English as a Second Language, State of Kansas.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School, Wichita, KS; Faith Lutheran Church and School, Derby, KS; Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, Columbus, NE; Bethany Lutheran Church and School, Wichita, KS; St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Chaska, MN; St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Battle Creek, NE; Central Lutheran School, member at St. John's Lutheran Church, Newhall, IA.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Served as educator on PLC for Kansas District. Have served on planning committees for conferences in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Iowa East Districts, LCMS, and national NLSA conferences, including pastor/teacher conferences, singles events/retreats, and LWML. Also, have helped count votes and proctor at the Kansas District Convention. Recently served on Board of Directors and on appointed committees, Board of Caring Ministry, Board of Missions, Standard Operating Procedures Committee (SOPM), and a special task force for the District's Retreat Center. Also, assisted as a part-time principal at Faith Lutheran Church and School in Derby, Kansas.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Have worked voting polls, participated in Bi-Centennial activities, sold buttons at the Wichita River Festival and walked in its Walk-a-thon, and held various offices in Thrivent and local activities. Co-founded ILS (Immanuel Lutheran School) Extravaganza for school funding. Special gifts include coordinating and administrating events, dates, and resources, including the talent of helping people work together for a common goal. Teaching is a true talent and gift.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Leadership in Scripture states that God's qualification for leadership are people who are capable, God-fearing, and haters of dishonest gain (Exodus 18:21). Basing my leadership style on this biblical premise, I strive to serve the various roles God has placed before me in a Servant Leadership model. I have been honored with a 45 Years of Service recognition to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** A survey helped to give direction for the Kansas District and its ministry, yet Servant Leadership plays an important role in shepherding the various congregations and called ministers, both ordained and commissioned. The main focus should be the biblical direction of spreading the Gospel and assessing the best form of supporting the churches and schools and their workers in their callings. It is a great joy to work with our District personnel and experience that blessing. It is important to focus on the Gospel, buoyed and strengthened by Christ and His love in prayer; strategize and learn how to plant new churches and ministries, and re-energizing and/or continue to let go of what is waning. Teach budgets, fiscally, and in faith. Help and support various congregations in learning to work toward goals in sharing resources, recognizing and celebrating the various strengths and needs of both large and small congregations. These are all important in mission and ministry priorities.

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**Name:** Bethany Stoever  
**Home Congregation:** Immanuel, Hepler;  
Good Shepherd, Erie  
**Email:** [bethany.stoever@protonmail.com](mailto:bethany.stoever@protonmail.com)  
**Years Commissioned:** 3

**Address:** 673 W 680th Ave, Hepler, KS 66746  
**Phone Number:** (620) 238-5436  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 3

**Occupation:** Deaconess

**Education:** B.S. in English with a minor in School Library Media (Utah State University, 2015);  
M.A. in Deaconess Studies (Concordia Theological Seminary, 2021).

**Service to Congregation(s):** I was commissioned on January 5, 2022, as deaconess to the youth at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Hepler. Until the youth group paused due to the graduation of its members, service included the following activities: heading fundraising and registration efforts for a youth trip, which resulted in organizing and leading a 2022 youth trip to Wyoming for a week to visit several LCMS congregations; participate in a service project; assist with a one-day VBS, and learn more about the Church as a whole (including learning about the Sierra Leone seminary) and God's creation; seeking to expand the youths' understanding of Synod and the Lutheran church through weekly meetings and several Sunday visits to circuit congregations; providing ways to transition to adult involvement in the congregation's life, including designing and creating a seasonally-appropriate church banner; singing and playing bells for occasional church services; providing dinner for the congregation's Advent Hymn Sing and hosting Easter breakfast; working with the pastor to help the students with post-high school transitions to college and other settings, including teaching them how to use the LCMS church directory and securing introductions to congregations/pastors where possible.

Serving in unofficial/volunteer congregational service outside of commissioned youth work has included directing the bell choir and arranging music to match and challenge their abilities since January 2022; starting a preschool-level weekday school class in autumn 2022; assisting the banner committee in creating three new banners; leading the painting of a Lutheran table prayer on the fellowship hall; leading occasional Bible studies at LWML; and (at Good Shepherd in Erie, the other congregation in the dual parish) teaching the Old Testament to the pre-confirmation class in 2022-2023.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I was appointed to the Parish Education Committee in the autumn of 2022. I have served as recorder for the committee, taking minutes and performing other secretarial/editing duties as requested. Achievements include assisting with a reorganization of the Parish Education Committee webpages by evaluating and providing recommendations for improvement within a subcommittee, and spearheading promotional activities including designing, updating, and disseminating posters for the 2024 Marriage Enrichment Seminars throughout the Kansas District.

I was elected to the Lutherans For Life of Kansas Board of Directors as director-at-large in June of 2022. I have served as designer and editor of the monthly newsletter, including soliciting articles, organizing themes, coordinating with board and guest writers (particularly Lutheran/LCMS pastors for a special pastoral column), and writing content. Since its reorganization, the newsletter has received public accolades and cross-publication from the national LFL organization. I cleaned up the email contact list within first nine months and have suggested various edits to the national LFL essay contest rules, many of which were adopted in the summer of 2024.

From April 2017-May 2019, I served the LCMS as a contract writer/editor for 28 varied projects, using the AP, CPH, and LCMS stylebooks, and also served as contract editor under Rev. Sean Daenzer for the *LetUsPray* project between Feb. 24-May 31, 2022.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I served as violin teacher to students of all ages and as a violinist and violist in orchestras and chamber groups, and have sought to

develop choral experience and apply it to other settings (most recently in the handbell choir.)

During my deaconess internship, I embarked on a comprehensive index, annotation, and concordance of CTCR reports and opinions. To date, I have accomplished this for 164 of the 168 CTCR reports and opinions.

I was a newspaper reporter for the Uinta County Herald from 2015-2018. I sought to provide a Christian perspective to the editorial office and to report disinterestedly on a variety of hotly contested issues in the community while also developing the skills to edit and design the twice-weekly newspaper. Particular interests included legislative reporting, especially reading all of Wyoming's House and Senate bills for one session and summarizing as many as possible for readers to evaluate independently. I was also involved in providing an opportunity for a local LCMS pastor to write regular columns, which has since resulted in his writing about a variety of topics for newspapers around the state from a Lutheran/Christian perspective.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** While I have not sought out a nomination to a District position, I am willing to serve the Church to the best of my ability when called upon to do so. If elected to serve on the Kansas District Board, I would be willing to offer whatever experience and skills I have that may be of service.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I believe greater unity between congregations in circuits is essential to the Kansas District's health. Many congregations currently see themselves in competition with neighboring congregations, but membership in Christ's Body not only means that individuals serve their congregations but that congregations themselves have different gifts and needs. Much of the mission need I have seen in my time in Kansas is in congregations that have embraced isolation and "self-sufficiency" and are struggling as a result. Greater congregational stability and relationships will open doors to more effective outside mission work.

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<b>Name:</b> Paul White	<b>Address:</b> 17228 Driftwood Bend, Wamego, KS 66547
<b>Home Congregation:</b> Mt. Calvary, Wamego	<b>Phone Number:</b> (321) 704-4903
<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:dcepaulwhite@gmail.com">dcepaulwhite@gmail.com</a>	<b>Years in the Kansas District:</b> 17
<b>Years Commissioned:</b> 17	

**Occupation:** Director of Christian Education (DCE)

**Education:** Bachelor of Fine Arts with DCE Certificate, Concordia University, Nebraska.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Director of Family and Youth Ministry at Mt. Calvary Lutheran in Wamego, KS (July 2007-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I have served as Chair of the Kansas District Ministries: Middle School Retreat (precursor to Middle School Huddle); high school summer camp at Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR); Kansas District Youth Gathering (KDYG).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I gave experience serving in multiple inner cities, food insecurity, and housing ministries. I have served with LCMS Friends of New Americans ministries in St. Louis and various Bethesda special needs camps and ministries. I have a special affinity for special needs and family ministries. I have also enjoyed the opportunity to volunteer in the school and education ministries at St. John Lutheran Church in Alma, KS.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I have no motive but am willing to serve the District in its mission to proclaim the Gospel within our families, churches, and communities. I want to see strong growing congregations supported by the District to rejoice in and share the truth of God's love as revealed through Jesus Christ.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I believe the church grows through education. I put special emphasis on educational programs for parents, devotional materials and instruction for at-home use, and resources for churches of all sizes to use in education programs of all ages. Access to and engaging the Word of God is instrumental to faith development and growth.

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## LAY KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (REGION 1)

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**Name:** David E. Bruns

**Address:** 10313 S. Northlake Ave., Olathe, KS 66061

**Home Congregation:** Christ, Overland Park

**Phone:** (785) 633-9141

**Email:** [brunsteam@aol.com](mailto:brunsteam@aol.com)

**Years in the District:** 65

**Occupation:** Judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals

**Education:** National Judicial College, University of Nevada (2000); Washburn University School of Law (1984); University of Kansas (1981); and Kansas City, Kansas Community College (1979).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Adult Bible Study Leader (Present); Call Committee Chair (Present); Benevolence Committee (Present); Communion Assistant (President); and Basketball Coach, Christ Lutheran School (Present). Formerly served as Chairman of Congregation, Chair of Board of Elders, Bible Class Leader, Youth Leader, Sunday School Superintendent, and various other roles at Christ Lutheran, Topeka. Also, formerly served School Board member, Basketball Coach, and various other roles at Topeka Lutheran School.

**Service to Circuit, District and Synod:** Presiding Officer of Kansas District Board of Directors (Present); Chair of Board of Administration (Present); member of Executive Council (Present); member of Salary Review Committee (Present); Kansas LCMS Public Servants Bible Study leader (Present); and Certified Reconciler (Present). Formerly served the District as Chair of Board of Missions and as member of Family Life Committee. Formerly served at the Synod level as Chair of the LCMS Board of District and Congregational Services and as member of the Board of International Mission.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Former Adjunct Professor at Washburn Law School and in the Washburn University School of Business; founder of the Topeka-Shawnee County Youth Court; Past International President and CEO of Optimist International; Co-Founder of the Optimist International Oratorical World Championships; author of *Bringing Out the Best--The First Century of Optimist International (1919-2019)*; various offices at club, zone, and district level of Optimist International; presenter at multiple conferences on legal and civic matters; and continue to serve on various other boards and committees.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I thank God for allowing me to serve on the Kansas District Board of Directors and to serve as the Board's presiding officer for the past seven years. As a lifelong member of Kansas District congregations, I am very familiar with both the strengths and challenges that we face. It is comforting to know that God is in control, and that He will lead us on the path He desires us to go. If it is God's will, I look forward to continuing to serve during the next triennium to strengthen our congregations and schools.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** It is wonderful that so many LCMS congregations and schools continue to share the Gospel of Christ Jesus across our state. However, it is important to recognize that many congregations and schools across our District are struggling and need our help. While staying true to God's Word, we must continue to find new ways to revitalize our existing congregations and schools. Likewise, we must continue to help with the planting of new congregations and schools. As C.F.W. Walther said, "the cultivation of our parochial schools ... remains, after public ministry, the chief means for [the church's] preservation and continuation."

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**Name:** Michael Koerperich  
**Home Congregation:** First, Sabetha  
**Email:** [dukekorp@yahoo.com](mailto:dukekorp@yahoo.com)

**Address:** 606 N 2nd St., Hiawatha, KS 66434  
**Phone Number:** (785) 741-0612  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 30

**Occupation:** Owner, Service Director of Ambulance Service

**Education:** USAF Air Traffic Control: Associate Degree Applied Science - Paramedic Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center: USAF Terminal Enroute Procedure Specialist Course.

**Service to Congregation:** Past Chairman of church council.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** 30-year member of Volunteer Rescue Squad. Past member of Volunteer Fire Department. Participated in a mission trip to India.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I desire to serve in this position for the glory of God and for the good of congregations in our District. I have been a lifelong Lutheran and I have seen it get better and better. I would love to help that continue in any way I can so that God's Kingdom can come and His Will can be done.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I think our main priority should be ministry that is faithful to the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions. Whatever we can do to make that happen is a top priority for me. Along with that, I think we have a priority to seek unity in both teaching and church practices. Then following the first priority of faithfulness, I think we have priorities for mission work too. I think the District should have priority in our future pastors, planting congregations in vacant communities, and helping start Lutheran schools.

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**Name:** Marvin Schulteis  
**Home Congregation:** Redeemer, Lawrence  
**Email:** [mhschulteis2020@gmail.com](mailto:mhschulteis2020@gmail.com)

**Address:** 5619 Plymouth Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049  
**Phone Number:** (785) 231-7953  
**Years in the Kansas District:** all my life, except work transfers away from Kansas

**Occupation:** Attorney; Adjunct College Professor

**Education:** Topeka High School; Washburn University of Topeka, MA Degree Washburn University Law School, JD Degree.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Vice-President, Redeemer, Lawrence (current congregation); Elder, Redeemer, Lawrence; served as Elder & Elder Chair in as many as four congregations during my career years being transferred around the country with AT&T.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** LCMS Synod: Lay Delegate to the 2016 Synod Convention, Milwaukee; LCMS Synod: member of the Constitution/Bylaws Floor Committee at the 2016 Convention District; member of District Nominating Committee (2009 & 2022); Conventions District: Lay Member of District Board of Directors (2018-2025); Kansas District: Chair, District Board of Missions (2018-2025).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Member and Chair of Rockwood School District (St. Louis, MO) Board of Education; four years Member University of Missouri, St. Louis (UMSL) Chancellor's Council; 3 years member and Chair of Washburn University of Topeka Board of Regents; four years Board of Directors: Missouri State Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement of St. Louis; Nelson-Adkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, etc.; several years each Adjunct Faculty member, Columbia College, Columbia, MO (20 years).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I am a life-long LCMS Lutheran. As such, I personally feel a strong sense of honor and responsibility to serve my Lord and Savior, and my Church. Since I have already served as a director for two terms, I am fully aware of the many ways that this position can benefit God's Church on earth, and the dedicated Lutheran saints that support and maintain God's earthly kingdom. It would be a privilege and an honor to serve for another three years.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** "Mission Priorities" for the coming triennium are the primary concern and responsibility of the Board of Missions, which I chair. Our faithful Board has identified several priorities going forward, but four in particular have been moved to the forefront of our deliberations over the past year or so:

- 1 & 2) Church Planting & Church Revitalization (which are different),
- 3) Jesus Door-to-Door (JD2D) neighborhood canvass outreach ministry, and
- 4) Expansion of Campus Ministries to even more college students in Kansas. By the grace of God, all of these priorities are achievable!

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## LAY KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (REGION 2)

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**Name:** Scott Bokelman  
**Home Congregation:** Zion, Linn  
**Email:** [bokelmansk@gmail.com](mailto:bokelmansk@gmail.com)

**Address:** 1730 15th Road, Washington, KS 66968  
**Phone Number:** (785) 532-8273  
**Years in the Kansas District:** Lifetime

**Occupation:** Banker (retired) / Farmer

**Education:** BS in Agriculture Economics from Kansas State University.

**Service to Congregation(s):** I have served multiple terms as Elder, President, Vice President and Finance Board. Served as Chairman on our Call Committee recently.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I am currently President of the local Rotary Club, Vice President on the USD 108 School Endowment Board (lead the Finance Committee), and Vice President of the Linn Willow Creek Dairy Board. I have previously served on the Kansas FFA Foundation Board of Directors and as President of the local school board. My financial background has been especially helpful in my participation of these boards and associated committees.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** It is my desire to seek involvement in our church. In conversations with our pastor, I expressed this wish as I have recently retired from a demanding career that required travel. This made it challenging to provide the necessary focus for an opportunity like this. My service to our local congregation has been gratifying and fulfilling for me personally, and my wish is to expand on this. I hope to provide this along with other like-minded LCMS members and would value any future friendships and connections that may come with this position.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** The most important priorities for me would be church worker recruitment. There seems to be an abundance of opportunities to serve but the labor needed is limited. Coming from a congregation with a Lutheran school, Lutheran education is of significant importance. We are also involved in helping with the Concordia church plant, so church planting is another area of particular focus. Another area is Hispanic ministry, as I have personally witnessed how this has impacted our community since our church began offering weekly services to this underserved section of our communities.



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**Name:** David Meisinger  
**Home Congregation:** Grace, McPherson  
**Email:** [davidmary96@gmail.com](mailto:davidmary96@gmail.com)

**Address:** 444 Lynn's Lane, McPherson, KS 67460  
**Phone Number:** (620) 755-2302  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 56

**Occupation:** Professional Truck Driver

**Education:** I attended grade school in Marion, KS. I attended junior high school in Florence, KS. I attended high school at Marion High School and graduated in 1987.

**Service to Congregation(s):** I have served as Lead Usher for several years. I was elected as Evangelism Steward, as well as elected and served as Education Steward. I was elected and served as Planning Steward, and in 2023 was elected Head Elder. I have served on various committees and have been a member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in McPherson since 2001.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** In 2001, my wife and I became members of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in McPherson. In 2009-2012, I was elected to the Kansas District Nominating Committee. In 2012 I was elected to the Kansas District Board of Directors and served on the Kansas District Education Board until 2015. In 2015, I was elected to the Kansas District Board of Directors and served on the Board of Missions. In 2018, I was elected to the Kansas District Board of Directors and served on the Kansas District Board of Stewardship. I was termed out in 2022.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I have never done any community service.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** My interest in serving is to see that God's Word is taught in its truth and purity. I want to see that our decisions are made based on theology, God's Word, and our Lutheran Confessions. I also want to see that as a District we remain fiscally responsible with the gifts God provides us.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** My mission and ministry priorities are through true church growth, where our decisions are based on God's Word and our Lutheran Confessions. I would also like to see more church plants. We must remain fiscally responsible with the gifts God provides us and strive to have a balanced budget.

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**Name:** Bruce Schultz  
**Home Congregation:** St. John, Alma  
**Email:** [bdschultzphd@gmail.com](mailto:bdschultzphd@gmail.com)

**Address:** 38324 Plymouth St, Wamego, KS 66547  
**Phone Number:** (785) 313-5174  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 28

**Occupation:** Professor / Research Scientist

**Education:** BS in Agriculture, University of Nebraska; MS in Veterinary Science, University of Nebraska; PhD in Veterinary Medicine (Pharmacology), Cornell University.

**Service to Congregation(s):** St. John Lutheran Church and School, Alma, KS (1997-Present); Stewardship Committee (2024-Present); Elder (2018-2023); School Board (1999-2004, 2006-16; Chair 2000-04, 2009-12); Council (2000-04, 2009-12); Board of Christian Education (three years); Parent-Teacher League President (2004-06); VBS leader, Handbell choir.

First Lutheran Church, Birmingham, AL (1991-1995); Board of Evangelism member/Chair; Coordinate 'Friendship Sunday' Board of Deacons (Elders); Pastor Call Committee Chair; 'Alpha Connection' Bible Study Coordinator; 'Barnabus' Bible Study Leader; Worship assistant Bell choir, VBS.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Ithaca, NY (1985-1991); Board of University and College Affairs Chair Work with Vicarage program; 'Nomads' Bible Study Coordinator/Leader; coordinator/leader/participant in college student retreats.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** LCMS Synod: Lutheran Concerns Association Board of Directors (2024-Present); Concordia University, Chicago Board of Regents (2015-Present); Student Success & Academics Committee (2015-Present; Chair 2021-Present); Governance Committee (2021-Present); Concordia Theological Foundation Incorporated Board of Directors (2016-Present); Balance Concord Incorporated Board of Directors (2016-Present); Convention Voting Delegate representing Kansas District, Circuit 8 (2019, 2023); Floor Committee 11 (2019); Advisory Delegate representing Kansas District BOD (2016); National Youth Gathering Volunteer/Yellow shirt (2013, 2016).

LCMS Districts: Kansas District Board of Directors (2003-06, 2015-Present); Board of Caring Ministry (2003-2006); Board of Education and Youth (2015-Present); Chair (2018-2022); Convention Parliamentarian (2018, 2022, 2025); Speaker, District Theological Convocation (2006); District Steering Committee, Fan into Flame (2008-2009); Southern District: Sunday School Teachers Convention (1993); Eastern District: Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM; 1996); Coordinator, Eastern District Lutheran Student Fellowship Conference (1989); Convention Voting Delegate (1988) representing Trinity Lutheran Church, Ithaca.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Republican candidate for Kansas Board of Education, District 6 (2024); Kansas Lutherans for Life Board of Directors (Vice-President, 2022-Present); Christian Homes In Educational Fellowship (CHIEF; local home school association); Treasurer (2008-2013); Manhattan Eagle Football (High School and Junior High); Assistant coach (2006-14); Wabaunsee and Riley County 4-H Club Leader and/or Project Leader (2004-2013); County Fair Judge (2023, 2024); Wabaunsee Fire District 8, Firefighter (1998-Present); First Responder (2005-Present).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** The Great Commission can be implemented best when Christian men and women are equipped and organized to use their complimentary, God-given gifts. Similarly, Christians can be supported in their earthly life by a family coming together to address both personal and interpersonal needs. I am willing and able to serve on the Board of Directors as it supports ministry in the Kansas District through the oversight and coordination of resources to support outreach, stewardship, education and care throughout Kansas and throughout the LCMS, always maintaining a focus on Word and Sacrament and calling to repentance and proclaiming God's saving grace.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** The District must work with congregations, both rural and urban, to maintain vibrant Lutheran presence, activity and outreach throughout Kansas. The District can provide guidance and coordination to maximize the effectiveness and impact of resources that are available. There are many pressures on public education in Kansas, and the Kansas District is positioned well to expand quality education in Kansas that occurs in distinctly Lutheran environments. The District should work with congregations to start new schools and to enable current schools to grow. Implementation of the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF) is a high priority.

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## LAY KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (REGION 3)

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**Name:** Curtis Engelbrecht  
**Home Congregation:** Trinity, Wichita  
**Email:** [curt@engelbrecht.family](mailto:curt@engelbrecht.family)

**Address:** 5713 E 39th St N, Bel Aire, KS 67220-1961  
**Phone Number:** (316) 208-7452  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 43

**Occupation:** Retired

**Education:** BS – Mechanical Engineering; MS – Systems Engineering.

**Service to Congregation:** I am currently serving as president. Past service includes Elder, Trustee, Treasurer and adult Bible study leader.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I am currently serving as Region 3 Lay member of the Kansas District Board of Directors. Past service includes being on the District Nominations Committee, Circuit Forum Delegate and Kansas District Convention Delegate.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I have served in governance boards and elected positions in work, political, and church bodies for many years. My experience includes City Capital Projects Planning Board, National Level Political Party National Committee member, Political Party Kansas and National Executive Committee membership, Political National Committee Secretary and National Political Party Resolutions Committee Chairman.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** If re-elected, to continue serving on the Kansas District Board of Directors by being a faithful steward of the gifts provided by God through the congregations and members of the Kansas District, working to implement the policies of the District Convention, and to support and encourage the District President and staff.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Always moving in the direction of best use of limited and precious resources for equipping and supporting the congregations of the Kansas District in their role of fulfilling the Great Commission through congregations' called workers, staff, and members, and only in those common tasks the congregations entrust to the District.

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## LAY KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (REGION 4)

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**Name:** Jay Meyer

**Address:** P.O. Box 1085, Sublette, KS 67877

**Home Congregation:** Trinity, Garden City

**Phone Number:** (620) 640-7980

**Email:** [jbm@pld.com](mailto:jbm@pld.com)

**Years in the Kansas District:** 62

**Occupation:** Banker

**Education:** Graduated from Linn High School; Obtained a Bachelor's degree in Ag Economics from Kansas State University; graduated from the Graduate School of Banking in Colorado.

**Service to Congregation(s):** I served as Chairman of the Board of Elders, as well as in various roles on Church Leadership Council, including member, President, Vice President and Treasurer. I have served as President of the congregation on two different occasions and have been a member of three separate Call Committees. I am currently serving as Treasurer of the congregation and have been a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. I currently serve as Treasurer for the Fund and also serve on the T.I.G. Ministry Board, which is a joint ministry between Trinity Lutheran, Garden City; Immanuel Lutheran, Lakin, and Grace Lutheran, Ulysses, which is established for the purpose of sharing financial support for a pastor serving primarily Grace and Immanuel.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I have served as a lay delegate to two District Conventions over the past 25 years. I have also served as our circuit's lay delegate to the LCMS Convention. I have served as a member on the District's West Africa Mission Committee.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I have served on the USD 374 School Board for 16 years, as President for at least four of those years. I have also served in various roles on the Sublette Chamber of Commerce, currently as President. I am a member of the Sublette Public Schools Foundation and a member of the Haskell County Rotary Club.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I feel that I would bring a wide range of experience to this board position, having served and been a leader in numerous positions within our congregation and in my community. I have seen differing approaches to ministry from five different pastors since I became a member of Trinity, Garden City over 35 years ago. I have seen a glimpse of how the District operates with my involvement on three separate Call Committees. My appreciation for the importance of Word and Sacrament ministry has deepened through all of these experiences. I am willing to serve on this board if elected.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** My priorities, in no particular order, include recruitment and retention of faithful pastors; promotion of joint ministry agreements to make it feasible for smaller congregations to have a called pastor; continue to focus on Word and Sacrament ministry in our congregations; continue providing resources for parish education, and promote community outreach with the focus on sharing the Good News about Jesus to those outside our congregations.

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**Name:** Mark Wolters

**Address:** 406 S Railroad Ave., Atwood, KS 67730

**Home Congregation:** Redeemer, Atwood

**Phone Number:** (785) 626-0672

**Email:** [markwolters55@gmail.com](mailto:markwolters55@gmail.com)

**Years in the Kansas District:** 69

**Occupation:** Retired K-12 Teacher / Administrator; Technical Writer

**Education:** BS, Kansas State University; MS, Fort Hays State University.

**Service to Congregation:** Elder, teacher, organist, choir.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors (2018-Present); Circuit Lay Delegate to LCMS Synod Convention (2001, 2023).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Rotary member, volunteer delivery for Meals on Wheels, Youth Center Board of Directors, run the clock at high school basketball games.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I would like to continue serving in this position with the Kansas District to be a part of God's work beyond the local congregation. It is easy to get caught up in local activities and challenges and not see the bigger picture of what God is doing. Serving at the District level provides that opportunity.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Many congregations are getting smaller. There are fewer pastors available to serve them. The District can be a part of encouraging and supporting current and future church workers through scholarships and education loan repayment. The District can also be a conduit for resources and assistance in helping congregations work together and be a part of the bigger work that God is doing.

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## LAY KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (At-Large, 3 elected)

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**Name:** Brian Smith

**Address:** 802 Spruce Ave, Moundridge, KS 67107

**Home Congregation:** Immanuel, Canton

**Phone Number:** (620) 386-4303

**Email:** [briansmi1976@gmail.com](mailto:briansmi1976@gmail.com)

**Years in the Kansas District:** 21 currently, 45 years total

**Years Ordained or Commissioned, if applicable:** N/A

**Occupation:** Corporate Manager of Regulatory Compliance, National Flour Milling Company

**Education:** 1st - 8th grade, Topeka Lutheran School; High School, Topeka, Seaman; Bachelor's Degree, Kansas State University, Bakery Science & Management.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Elder and President, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bolingbrook, IL; Elder, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Joplin, MO; Elder and youth Bible class teacher, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Van Wert, OH; Elder, President, Financial Secretary, youth Bible class teacher, once lay representative to Kansas District Convention; twice on call committee, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Canton, KS.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** None

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Regional Vice President, Beta Sigma Psi National Fraternity; Sight Council, Moundridge USD 423; Company representative, City Chamber of Commerce.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I grew up in the Kansas District. I have had a wide and lifelong experience in the LCMS in a variety of congregational roles and locations throughout the country. I was approached for my interest in the position. I don't believe that would have occurred unless God was calling me to consider serving in this capacity; I am answering His call.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Elderly ministry within care facilities and shut-ins within their own homes. Youth and specifically retaining them within the Lutheran church as they grow into adulthood and beyond. Rural ministry as populations in rural Kansas communities continue to shrink. Encouraging and facilitating the combining of rural congregations and/or the sharing of a pastor between multiple rural congregations.

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**Name:** Kara Titus

**Home Congregation:** Christ, Manhattan

**Email:** [Karajane92@gmail.com](mailto:Karajane92@gmail.com)

**Address:** 1509 Grandview Dr., Wamego, KS 66547

**Phone Number:** (785) 727-8446

**Years in the Kansas District:** 10

**Occupation:** Director Community Relations, Lightsourcebp

**Education:** BA, Government minors Humanities and Business (Oral Roberts University 2012); Masters Public Administration, Kansas University (2019).

**Service to Congregation(s):** I served on the Communications Committee at Mt. Calvary Lutheran, Wamego (2016-2019); Chair of St. Luke's Classical Lutheran School Feasibility Study Committee (2021-2023). I am currently serving on the Christ, Manhattan Education Committee.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** None

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Member of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors (2021-2024); member of Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Business Advocacy Committee (2020-Present; serving two three-year terms); member of Hope Lutheran Early Center Board of Directors (2022-2023); member of Manhattan Community Foundation Young Trustees (2020-Present); member of Meadowlark Foundation Board of Directors (2021-Present; serving two terms of three years).

I have had the opportunity to meet and connect with Lutherans all over the country through the creation and sale of my Latin, Lutheran coloring books that I sell online. This venture has brought me to the consortium of classical Lutheran education and their conference in the summer. It is what inspired my desire to start a classical Lutheran school in Manhattan. I have also served as a LPTL member at St. John's Lutheran School and alumna of Leadership

Manhattan (2022), and alumna of Leadership Salina (2021).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I am very excited for the opportunity to serve the District, and work on Lutheran education initiatives. I would like to assist the District in its pursuit to strengthen our Lutheran schools and encourage congregations to start Lutheran schools. I am eager to learn more about the services the District offers to churches and support District leadership in their goals and vision for our church moving forward.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I would like to see the Kansas District educate members on the importance of Lutheran education. We should support churches already in the education ministry and encourage other congregations to help support it. I would like the District to encourage Lutheran schools to become classical, the reason being retention rates. Retaining our children in the church as adults is a challenge. With Lutheran schools and congregations, we see about 30% retention nationwide. Classical Christian schools see a 90% retention rate of students continuing church attendance in adulthood. I would also add ministry to evangelicals. Many are looking for tradition and truth found within the LCMS.

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### DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE – CLERGY (3 positions, no two from same region)

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**Name:** Van Edward Mease

**Home Congregation:** St. Paul, Leavenworth

**Email:** [edmease@outlook.com](mailto:edmease@outlook.com)

**Years Ordained:** 40.5

**Address:** 2300 E. Gary St., Park City, KS 67219-1700

**Phone Number:** (913) 758-7624

**Years in the Kansas District:** 35.5

**Occupation:** Pastor (retired)

**Education:** A.A., St. John's College (Winfield, KS) 1978 Pre-Ministerial Studies; B.A., Concordia College (St. Paul, MN); 1980 Major: Religion; Minor: Psychology; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne, IN); 1984 Major: Biblical Studies Various Trainings/Certificates (1984-2024).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, West Bend, IA (1984-1989); Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Coffeyville, KS (1989-1994); Senior Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Leavenworth, KS (1994-2025).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I served several terms as Circuit Counselor/Visitor in Kansas Circuits 2 and 5, the most recent through 2024. I also served on various boards and committees in both the Iowa District West and the Kansas District. I was the Circuit Pastoral Delegate for Circuit 5 (or 6), and for LCMS Conventions, the most recent in Milwaukee, WI. I was the 2023 Vicarage Supervisor for six vicars (both in Coffeyville and Leavenworth).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Served on the Board of Directors for Leavenworth County Multi-Disciplinary Child Protection Team; Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope (Homeless Shelter); Leavenworth Attainable Housing; Leavenworth County Clergy Association; Coffeyville Clergy Association. Served as Chaplain for Leavenworth Police Department; volunteered with Sparrow Women's Clinic (Leavenworth).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Recently retired, this would afford me the opportunity to continue my service to both District and Synod in helping to promote the best candidates for positions of leadership, helping to determine the future witness and mission of both. Having spent my entire life in the LCMS (the bulk of it in the Kansas District), I feel that I am equipped with a knowledge of the "inner workings" of our church body structure and would be helpful in working with others to utilize the best of personnel and stewardship to further our outreach to a lost world ... before it's too late!

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** We will continue to face the challenge of declining congregational membership, but that does not automatically mean a decline in witness or service by our congregations to the communities they serve. Having served the past 30 years in such a situation, I bring hands-on knowledge and experience in dealing with such concerns. We must explore ways of getting around the old Lutheran mentality of "we've never done it that way before" and no longer just living our lives and not sharing our faith but beginning to live our faith by sharing our lives ... cultivating awesome relationships for eternity!

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**Name:** Michael Schmidt  
**Home Congregation:** Peace, Natoma, and First, Plainville  
**Email:** [revschmidt@yahoo.com](mailto:revschmidt@yahoo.com)  
**Years Ordained:** 17

**Address:** 722 4th Street, Natoma, KS 67651  
**Phone Number:** (785) 885-8308  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 17

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Concordia College, Bronxville (2003); Master of Divinity, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2007).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Peace Lutheran Church, Natoma (2007-Present); First Lutheran Church, Plainville (2013-Present); Grace Lutheran Church, Hill City (2022-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Circuit 15 Visitor (2016-Present); LCMS Synod Convention Delegate (2010, 2023); PCWC Planning Committee (2012-2014).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Natoma Lions Club (2008-2016); Natoma Memorial Day Committee (2008-Present); Natoma City Wide Garage Sale Chair (2016-Present).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I believe that it is tedious, but important work to ensure that there are people representing the entire District and Synod available and ready to hold office and further the mission of the Church. Over the years, I have met and visited with a wide variety of individuals and believe that I have a firm grasp on who might be well qualified to faithfully fill the various positions that ensure the Church runs smoothly.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I believe that the most important work of the District going forward is to ensure that congregations of the District are able to meet the needs of proclaiming the Gospel and administering the Sacraments, in the face of a growing demographic crisis, particularly in rural areas, and a growing anti-Christian sentiment, particularly in larger areas. The work of the District needs to focus on continuing to support congregations and schools, with adequate workers to meet the needs that arise.

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**Name:** Andrew Wehling  
**Home Congregation:** Immanuel, Lawrence  
**Email:** [revwehling@hotmail.com](mailto:revwehling@hotmail.com)  
**Years Ordained:** 31

**Address:** 2108 E 29th St., Lawrence, KS 66046  
**Phone Number:** (620) 655-2624  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 24

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** 1989 B.S. Elem Ed Concordia University, Nebraska; 1993 M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Vicarage at Bethany, Alexandria, VA (1991-1992); Assistant Pastor at Redeemer, Stuart, FL (1993-1995); Missionary at Large / Pastor at Grace, Port St. Lucie, FL (1993-2000); Pastor at Grace, Liberal, KS (2000-2022); Pastor at Immanuel, Lawrence, KS (2022-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** LWML Zone Counselor (1995-1997); Kansas District Youth Ministry Committee (2010-2016); 2002-2005 Pastoral Delegate LCMS 2013 Convention; Circuit Visitor (2009-2018); Kansas District Convention Floor Committee (2018); Church Worker Care Committee (2018-2022); LCMS PALS Coordinator (2023-Present).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Active in Ministerial Alliance (2000-2022); Cub Scout Den Leader (2006-2009); McCray Community Center Board (2005-2015); Kiwanis Club (2021-2022).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** As a Synod, we are committed to walking together in our common mission to make and strengthen disciples of Jesus Christ through the preaching and teaching of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments. As God enables, I desire to support and encourage this walking together, so that the Light of Christ shines brightly in the Church and out to the world.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** The Church is faced with tremendous challenges. How can we better retain our current members? How do we communicate effectively and faithfully to our increasingly distracted, confused, and religiously apathetic population? How might we connect better with adults in the 18-40 age range? What are ways that we can strengthen our Lutheran schools, and start new ones? How can we speak clearly and boldly regarding God's gifts of life, sexuality, and marriage? May God, the Holy Spirit, strengthen us in faithful, Christ-centered witness!

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## DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE – COMMISSIONED (1 position)

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**Name:** Kathy Bartels

**Home Congregation:** St. John's, Topeka

**Email:** [kbartels818@gmail.com](mailto:kbartels818@gmail.com)

**Years Commissioned:** 34

**Address:** 1815 SW High Ave., Topeka, KS 66604

**Phone Number:** (785) 213-6154

**Years in the Kansas District:** 46

**Occupation:** High School Teacher

**Education:** BS Ed, MEd, Concordia University, Nebraska.

**Service to Congregation(s):** I enjoy teaching the first-year catechesis class at church, as well as the middle school Bible class. I have been a member of the bell choir, adult choir, altar guild, and Board of Education for our association school. I am currently serving with the Board of Missions and Evangelism.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I served with the Elections Committee during the 2022 Kansas District Convention.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I am honored to be considered for this position. I hope to be of help to the Committee and through that work, to be able to encourage members of our District congregations as they, too, are given the opportunity to use their talents and abilities in service to the Lord and His Church.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** It is my prayer that the Holy Spirit will keep us steadfast in the true faith through the preaching, teaching, and study of God's Word, and through His Sacraments. As we are strengthened in that faith within our families, congregations, and schools, we can then continue to look to the needs of others and support the local, national, and international missions of the LCMS, as well



as our colleges and seminaries.

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**Name:** Susan (Sue) Kleber  
**Congregation:** Holy Cross, Wichita  
**E-mail Address:** [skkleber@aol.com](mailto:skkleber@aol.com)  
**Year Commissioned:** 1975

**Address:** 8711 E. 44<sup>th</sup> St. N., Wichita, KS 67226  
**Phone Number:** (316) 682-1894 (Landline)  
**Years in Kansas:** 32

**Occupation:** Educator

**Education:** M.S. in Education, Concordia University, Seward, NE; B.S. in Education and Lutheran Teachers Diploma, Concordia University, Seward, NE; K-12 Certification in Spanish, Friends University, Wichita, KS; PS-8 Administrative (Building) Certification, Concordia University, Seward, NE; K-12 Certification in English as a Second Language, State of Kansas.

**Service to Congregation(s):** Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School, Wichita, KS; Faith Lutheran Church and School, Derby, KS; Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, Columbus, NE; Bethany Lutheran Church and School, Wichita, KS; St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Chaska, MN; St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Battle Creek, NE; Central Lutheran School, member at St. John's Lutheran Church, Newhall, IA.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Served as educator on PLC for Kansas District. Have served on planning committees for conferences in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Iowa East Districts, LCMS, and national NLSA conferences, including pastor/teacher conferences, singles events/retreats, and LWML. Also, have helped count votes and proctor at the Kansas District Convention. Recently served on Board of Directors and on appointed committees, Board of Caring Ministry, Board of Missions, Standard Operating Procedures Committee (SOPM), and a special task force for the District's Retreat Center. Also, assisted as a part-time principal at Faith Lutheran Church and School in Derby, Kansas.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Have worked voting polls, participated in Bi-Centennial activities, sold buttons at the Wichita River Festival and walked in its Walk-a-thon, and held various offices in Thrivent and local activities. Co-founded ILS (Immanuel Lutheran School) Extravaganza for school funding. Special gifts include coordinating and administrating events, dates, and resources, including the talent of helping people work together for a common goal. Teaching is a true talent and gift.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Leadership in Scripture states that God's qualification for leadership are people who are capable, God-fearing, and haters of dishonest gain (Exodus 18:21). Basing my leadership style on this biblical premise, I strive to serve the various roles God has placed before me in a Servant Leadership model. I have been honored with a 45 Years of Service recognition to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** A survey helped to give direction for the Kansas District and its ministry, yet Servant Leadership plays an important role in shepherding the various congregations and called ministers, both ordained and commissioned. The main focus should be the biblical direction of spreading the Gospel and assessing the best form of supporting the churches and schools and their workers in their callings. It is a great joy to work with our District personnel and experience that blessing. It is important to focus on the Gospel, buoyed and strengthened by Christ and His love in prayer; strategize and learn how to plant new churches and ministries, and re-energizing and/or continue to let go of what is waning. Teach budgets, fiscally, and in faith. Help and support various congregations in learning to work toward goals in sharing resources, recognizing and celebrating the various strengths and needs of both large and small congregations. These are all important in mission and ministry priorities.

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## DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE – LAY (4 positions, one from each region)

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**Name:** Michael Bachelor  
**Home Congregation:** First, Sabetha  
**Email:** [michaelb@bachelorcontrols.com](mailto:michaelb@bachelorcontrols.com)

**Address:** 1305 Dakota St., Sabetha, KS 66534  
**Phone Number:** (785) 285-0341  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 18

**Occupation:** Industrial Controls and Automation

**Education:** Air Force Tech School, Computer Programming; BS Computer Information Systems, Strayer University (2001).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Head Elder and Sunday School Superintendent.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Currently N/A

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Some missions work with First Lutheran. This includes soup days, pancake feeds, and some Lutheran Men's Group work with helping someone in need.

Highly participatory in local civic matters and local government within the community and the county. Occasionally consulting with County Commissioners on various matters including Operational Technology, IT, Cybersecurity, etc. Usually, this is volunteered time on my part.

I'm analytical, logical, strategic, and I care a great deal about sound doctrine and practice.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I want to be very clear that I am certainly willing to serve, but I am not campaigning to serve. I do care about good leadership in the District; therefore I am motivated to help seek out those people. I have experience recruiting and hiring at work as an executive level leader in my business, so this is a capacity I can serve.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Everything is about Word & Sacrament Ministry. Missions starts at the altar with the member families first ... routinely coming to be fed, putting on the full armor of God, bringing children up with sound doctrine, and growing the church by keeping families in the church per God's model. That is priority number one and constitutes putting one's house in order, which enables us to help our neighbor as we should. Then, it is about reaching out to the community. Be an example, help those in need, reach the unchurched in our backyards. That and support formation of confessional pastors who can lead.

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**Name:** Jay Meyer  
**Home Congregation:** Trinity, Garden City  
**Email:** [jbm@pld.com](mailto:jbm@pld.com)

**Address:** P.O. Box 1085, Sublette, KS 67877  
**Phone Number:** (620) 640-7980  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 62

**Occupation:** Banker

**Education:** Graduated from Linn High School; obtained a Bachelor's degree in Ag Economics from Kansas State University; graduated from the Graduate School of Banking in Colorado.

**Service to Congregation(s):** I served as Chairman of the Board of Elders, as well as in various roles on Church Leadership Council, including member, President, Vice President and Treasurer. I have served as President of the congregation on two different occasions and have been a member of three separate Call Committees. I am currently serving as Treasurer of the congregation and have been a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. I currently serve as Treasurer for the Fund and also serve on the T.I.G. Ministry Board, which is a joint ministry between Trinity Lutheran, Garden City; Immanuel Lutheran, Lakin, and Grace Lutheran, Ulysses, which is established for the purpose of sharing financial support for a pastor serving primarily Grace and Immanuel.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I have served as a lay delegate to two District Conventions over the past 25 years. I have also served as our circuit's lay delegate to the LCMS Convention. I have served as a member on the District's West Africa Mission Committee.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** I have served on the USD 374 School Board for 16 years, as President for at least four of those years. I have also served in various roles on the Sublette Chamber of Commerce, currently as President. I am a member of the Sublette Public Schools Foundation and a member of the Haskell County Rotary Club.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I feel that I would bring a wide range of experience to this board position, having served and been a leader in numerous positions within our congregation and in my community. I have seen differing approaches to ministry from five different pastors since I became a member of Trinity, Garden City over 35 years ago. I have seen a glimpse of how the District operates with my involvement on three separate Call Committees. My appreciation for the importance of Word and Sacrament ministry has deepened through all of these experiences. I am willing to serve on this board if elected.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** My priorities, in no particular order, include recruitment and retention of faithful pastors; promotion of joint ministry agreements to make it feasible for smaller congregations to have a called pastor; continue to focus on Word and Sacrament ministry in our congregations; continue providing resources for parish education, and promote community outreach with the focus on sharing the Good News about Jesus to those outside our congregations.

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**Name:** Daniel Snyder

**Home Congregation:** Immanuel, Wichita

**Email:** [dan@dansnyder.com](mailto:dan@dansnyder.com)

**Address:** 144 N Clifton Ave., Wichita, KS 67208

**Phone:** (917) 628-5063

**Years in the District:** 11

**Occupation:** Headmaster, Concordia Academy-Wichita

**Education:** Master's Teaching Certificate in Classical Christian Education; BS Humanities, modern languages; Project Management Certificate.

**Service to Congregation(s):** VP Congregation for two years; Chairman Board of Elders for two years; member of the Board of Elders for four years.

**Service to Circuit, District and Synod:** Headmaster of Concordia Academy – Wichita, LCMS RSO; Lutheran Classical High School.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** We oversee "Concordia Cordis Urbis" which is funded with a District outreach grant to improve neighborhood conditions in south central Wichita. I work with Wichita Grand Opera both in promotion and singing, and I am a former international opera singer.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** In promoting the school, I get to tour around the state and meet other congregations to understand their requirements and hopes for a Lutheran high school in Kansas. Additionally, I am interested in training up disciples in the Lutheran confession for the good of the Church at large, and particularly for the rejuvenation of our Lutheran churches in worship of God and service to our neighbor.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** We stand at a cultural inflection point with the opportunity for obedience. The Church bears witness not to the current myths, but to the one story of redemption and the work of Christ among us. By continually returning 'ad fontes' to the living water that is the life of the Church, we sustain each other and water those around us. Christ doesn't need to be 'made' relevant; He already is, and supremely so.

- 1) Faithful worship in Word and Sacrament.
- 2) Protection of the life of families and their vocations.
- 3) Prosperity for our neighbors.

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**Name:** Stephen Weller

**Home Congregation:** Grace, McPherson

**Email:** [sfweller@yahoo.com](mailto:sfweller@yahoo.com)

**Address:** 1010 E Euclid St., Apt. A, McPherson, KS 67460

**Phone Number:** (816) 896-6566

**Years in the Kansas District:** 16

**Occupation:** Engineer

**Education:** B.S, Chemical Engineering, University of Kansas; Masters of Business Administration (MBA), University of Kansas.

**Service to Congregation(s):** President (2021, 2024-25); Treasurer (2009-10, 2012-13, 2015-16, 2018-2019, 2022); Business Manager (2007-2008); youth group involvement.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Board for National Mission (2023-Present); Synodical Convention Delegate (2013, 2023); Kansas District Delegate (2015); Kansas District Nominating Committee for 2015 Convention; served as Circuit Delegate three times.

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** McPherson County Library Board (2021-Present); Big Brothers, Big Sisters "Big" (2010-2020); Local Kiwanis Club Treasurer and President (multiple times); extensive finance, project management, and leadership experience.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I am happy to serve the church at all levels, in any way that I can and blessed to be able to take time from other vocations to do so. Having served on the District Nominating Committee once in the past, I feel prepared for the time commitment for this important responsibility if elected, understanding that time may be required outside of scheduled meetings as well as during the District Convention.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** Although all seven stated priorities of the Synod are important, I would especially emphasize "plant, sustain and revitalize Lutheran churches" and "strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God's design." Not only do strong Lutheran families create, sustain, and revitalize Lutheran churches, but Lutheran families also must especially be strengthened against our culture, which rages against all things meet, right, and salutary.

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## DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE TO THE SYNOD CONVENTION NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (church worker, ordained or commissioned)

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**Name:** Daniel Grams **Address:** 15737 South Central Street, Olathe, KS 66062  
**Home Congregation:** Beautiful Savior, Olathe **Phone Number:** (248) 928-4659  
**Email:** [daniel@kslcms.org](mailto:daniel@kslcms.org) **Years in the Kansas District:** 1.5  
**Years Ordained:** 22

**Occupation:** LCMS Pastor / District Staff

**Education:** BA, Concordia University, Ann Arbor (1998); M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (2002); MNA, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (2024).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Garfield, NJ (2002-2010); Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran, Luxemburg, WI (2010-2013); Interim Principal, St. Paul Lutheran, Luxemburg, WI (2011-2012); Senior Pastor, Ascension of Christ Lutheran, Beverly Hills, MI (2013-2023); lay service, Congregation Secretary.

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Circuit Visitor, SELC & English Districts (9 years); LCMS Convention Delegate (1998, 2016, 2023); LCMS Convention Floor Committee Member (2016, 2023); Chair, District Commission on Constitutions & Membership (English) District Evangelism Committee (SELC, English); LWML Zone Counselor/Chaplain (New Jersey).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Volunteer Fire Dept. Chaplain Food Pantry Board; Crisis Pregnancy Center Board.

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** It would be an honor to serve the church at large on the LCMS Committee for Convention Nominations. The church needs qualified competent people to serve on Synod boards and committees. They must exhibit fidelity to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions and with an overarching commitment to the church's mission of reaching the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ. My service in several different regions of the LCMS provides me with useful insight for the work of this committee.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** There are many important mission and ministry priorities for the District to pursue in the coming triennium. The Synod wide church planting initiative provides access to funding to spur church planting activity in Kansas. With the formation of the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation, support for Lutheran schools and the expansion of school ministries should be an important priority. Working with congregations to focus on partnerships and revitalization is important work that should continue to be emphasized. Hispanic ministry, church worker care, and life-long discipleship are other important priorities.

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**Name:** Van Edward Mease **Address:** 2300 E. Gary St., Park City, KS 67219-1700  
**Home Congregation:** St. Paul, Leavenworth **Phone Number:** (913) 758-7624  
**Email:** [edmease@outlook.com](mailto:edmease@outlook.com) **Years in the Kansas District:** 35.5  
**Years Ordained:** 40.5

**Occupation:** Pastor (retired)

**Education:** A.A., St. John's College (Winfield, KS) 1978 Pre-Ministerial Studies; B.A., Concordia College (St. Paul, MN); 1980 Major: Religion; Minor: Psychology; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne, IN); 1984 Major: Biblical Studies Various Trainings/Certificates (1984-2024).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, West Bend, IA (1984-1989); Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Coffeyville, KS (1989-1994); Senior Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Leavenworth, KS (1994-2025).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** I served several terms as Circuit Counselor/Visitor in Kansas Circuits 2 and 5, the most recent through 2024. I also served on various boards and committees in both the Iowa District West and the Kansas District. I was the Circuit Pastoral Delegate for Circuit 5 (or 6), and for LCMS Conventions, the most recent in Milwaukee, WI. I was the 2023 Vicarage Supervisor for six vicars (both in Coffeyville and Leavenworth).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Served on the Board of Directors for Leavenworth County Multi-Disciplinary Child Protection Team; Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope (Homeless Shelter); Leavenworth Attainable Housing; Leavenworth County Clergy Association; Coffeyville Clergy Association. Served as Chaplain for Leavenworth Police Department; volunteered with Sparrow Women's Clinic (Leavenworth).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** Recently retired, this would afford me the opportunity to continue my service to both District and Synod in helping to promote the best candidates for positions of leadership, helping to determine the future witness and mission of both. Having spent my entire life in the LCMS (the bulk of it in the Kansas District), I feel that I am equipped with a knowledge of the "inner workings" of our church body structure and would be helpful in working with others to utilize the best of personnel and stewardship to further our outreach to a lost world ... before it's too late!

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** We will continue to face the challenge of declining congregational membership, but that does not automatically mean a decline in witness or service by our congregations to the communities they serve. Having served the past 30 years in such a situation, I bring hands-on knowledge and experience in dealing with such concerns. We must explore ways of getting around the old Lutheran mentality of "we've never done it that way before" and no longer just living our lives and not sharing our faith but beginning to live our faith by sharing our lives ... cultivating awesome relationships for eternity!

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**Name:** Michael Schmidt  
**Home Congregation:** Peace, Natoma, and First, Plainville  
**Email:** [revschmidt@yahoo.com](mailto:revschmidt@yahoo.com)  
**Years Ordained:** 17

**Address:** 722 4th Street, Natoma, KS 67651  
**Phone Number:** (785) 885-8308  
**Years in the Kansas District:** 17

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Concordia College, Bronxville (2003); Master of Divinity, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2007).

**Service to Congregation(s):** Peace Lutheran Church, Natoma (2007-Present); First Lutheran Church, Plainville (2013-Present); Grace Lutheran Church, Hill City (2022-Present).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Circuit 15 Visitor (2016-Present); LCMS Synod Convention Delegate (2010, 2023); PCWC Planning Committee (2012-2014).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Natoma Lions Club (2008-2016); Natoma Memorial Day Committee (2008-Present); Natoma City Wide Garage Sale Chair (2016-Present).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** I believe that it is tedious, but important work to ensure that there are people representing the entire District and Synod available and ready to hold office and further the mission of the Church. Over the years, I have met and visited with a wide variety of individuals and believe that I have a firm grasp on who might be well qualified to faithfully fill the various positions that ensure the Church runs smoothly.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** I believe that the most important work of the District going forward is to ensure that congregations of the District are able to meet the needs of proclaiming the Gospel and administering the Sacraments, in the face of a growing demographic crisis, particularly in rural areas, and a growing anti-Christian sentiment, particularly in larger areas. The work of the District needs to focus on continuing to support congregations and schools, with adequate workers to meet the needs that arise.

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**Name:** Alan Stahlecker

**Home Congregation:** St. John, Lincolnville

**Email:** [revalanstahlecker@hotmail.com](mailto:revalanstahlecker@hotmail.com)

**Years Ordained:** 31

**Address:** P.O. Box 187, Lincolnville, KS 66858

**Phone Number:** (620) 382-4248

**Years in the Kansas District:** 31

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (May 1993); Bachelor of Science, Business Administration (Accounting), Adams State College, Alamosa, CO (May 1982); Rangely High School, Rangely, CO (May 1977).

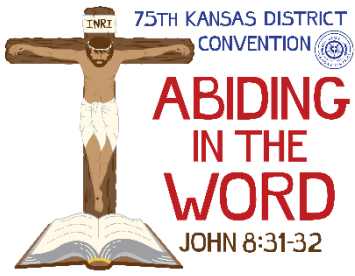
**Service to Congregation(s):** Treasurer, Trinity Lutheran Church, Alamosa, CO (1981-1982); Youth Leader, Peace with Christ Lutheran Church, Ft. Collins, CO (1982-1983); Treasurer, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, CO (1986-1989); Sole Pastor for St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lincolnville, KS (July 1993-Present); Vacancy Pastor for multiple congregations of Circuit 9 (at various times and for varying lengths of time over the last 31+ years).

**Service to Circuit, District, and Synod:** Circuit Pastoral Delegate to Synod Conventions (2023, 2004, 1995); Circuit Counselor, Circuit 9 (2003- 2012); Herington Zone LWML Pastoral Advisor (1998-2003); Kansas District LWML Pastoral Advisor (2000- 2004); Kansas District Convention Nominating Committee (2022, 2003); Chair of the Kansas District Convention Floor Committee, Life Together (2018); Kansas District Koinonia Project Task Force Chair (2019-2022); Kansas District Region 2 Vice-President (2019-Present); Kansas District Board of Stewardship (2019-Present); Kansas District Retreat Center Task Force (2019-2022, 2024-Present); Synod Convention Floor Committee, Finance (2023).

**Community service, special gifts, and related experience:** Treasurer of the Briargate Sertoma Club, Colorado Springs, CO (1986-1989); Lincolnville Fire Department Chaplain (as needed); Centre School Site Council (1996-2008); Coach in Centre School District #397 (2002-2021, 2022-Present).

**Briefly describe your interest in serving in this position.** While no more qualified than my brother pastors in Region 2 or throughout the District, I have gained experience while serving the District as a Vice-President since I was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2019. If elected, I am willing to serve on the District Board of Directors and/or Synod Convention Nominations Committee to the best of my God-given abilities and as faithfully as I am able.

**What mission and ministry priorities do you think are most important for the District to pursue in the coming triennium?** By "Abiding in the Word" as we daily live as the baptized in Christ, we are given by the Holy Spirit what is needed to seek to serve the congregations and professional church workers of the Kansas District so that God's Word is faithfully proclaimed to all people for the furtherance of His kingdom. It is my prayer that each of us "abide in His Word," that we live as His disciples, know the truth, and be set free to be His witnesses.



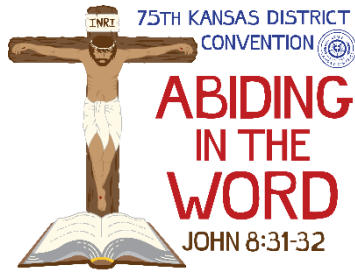
# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## KANSAS DISTRICT

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# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## 2025 LCMS Kansas District Convention Floor Committee Members

### **PROCLAIM**

Ordained (Chair)	Rev. Robert Grimm
Ordained	Rev. Matthew Jennings
Commissioned	David Birnbaum
Commissioned	Kathy Bartels
Lay	Scott Bokelman
Lay	Joe Chretien
BOD Advisory Representative	Sue Kleber
Staff Advisory Representative	Jeffrey Maltz

### **TEACH**

Ordained (Chair)	Rev. Anthony Masinelli
Ordained	Rev. Michael Schmidt
Commissioned	Ashley Nelson
Commissioned	Rachel Goodpasture
Lay	Linda Reed
Lay	Derek Smith
BOD Advisory Representative	Bruce Schultz
Staff Advisory Representative	Rev. Daniel Grams

### **SHARE**

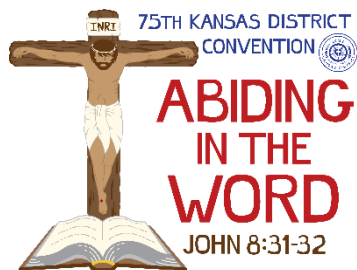
Ordained (Chair)	Rev. Troy Slater
Ordained	Rev. Christian Schultz
Commissioned	Brent Howard
Commissioned	William Prann
Lay	Barry Montgomery
Lay	Matthew List
BOD Advisory Representative	Curt Engelbrecht
Staff Advisory Representative	President Justin Panzer

### **STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Ordained (Chair)	Rev. Christian Schultz
Ordained	Rev. Troy Slater
Commissioned	Brent Howard
Commissioned	William Prann
Lay	Barry Montgomery
Lay	Matthew List
BOD Advisory Representative	Curt Engelbrecht
Staff Advisory Representative	President Justin Panzer

### **ELECTIONS / CREDENTIALS / EXCUSE**

Ordained (Chair)	Rev. Jason Toombs
Commissioned	Claire Gerrard
Lay	Ron Albrecht
Staff Advisory Representative	Rev. Joshua Woelmer



# 2025 Kansas District Convention

June 5-6 | Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina, Kansas

## OVERTURES

### Explanation of Overtures

#### Committee #1 – PROCLAIM

- 25-01-01 To Prioritize “Abiding in the Word” as a Mission and Ministry Focus for the 2025-2028 Triennium, Board of Directors
- 25-01-02 To Cultivate a Culture of Life in the Congregations and Schools of the LCMS Kansas District, Board of Directors
- 25-01-03 To Increase Faithful Stewardship in the LCMS Kansas District, Board of Directors
- 25-01-04 To Support LCMS Mission Work in Francophone West and Central Africa, LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors, Board of Missions
- 25-01-05 To Conduct Weekday Services and Offer the Lord's Supper More Than Only Every Sunday Morning, Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Basehor
- 25-01-06 To Stop Using the Title “Father”, Circuit 10

#### Committee #2 – TEACH

- 25-02-01 To Support the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation, Board of Directors
- 25-02-02 To Encourage National Lutheran School Accreditation, Board of Directors
- 25-02-03 To Embrace the Set Apart to Serve Church Worker Initiative, Board of Directors
- 25-02-04 To Plant Schools and Lutheran Early Childhood Centers in the LCMS Kansas District, Board of Directors, Board of Education and Youth
- 25-02-05 Use of the Historic One Year Lectionary, Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Basehor

#### Committee #3 – SHARE

- 25-03-01 To Plant Churches in the LCMS Kansas District, Board of Directors
- 25-03-02 To Promote Partnership in the Gospel in the LCMS Kansas District, Board of Directors
- 25-03-03 To Engage in Training for Witness and Outreach, Board of Directors

#### Committee #4 – STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION

- 25-04-01 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Term Limits, Board of Directors
- 25-04-02 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Ministers Conferences, Board of Directors
- 25-04-03 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Quarterly Board Meetings, Board of Directors
- 25-04-04 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Term of Office of Appointive Boards, Board of Directors
- 25-04-05 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Filling Vacancies in Standing Committees, Board of Directors
- 25-04-06 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Ranking the Vice-Presidents, Board of Directors
- 25-04-07 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Credentials for Voting Delegates, Board of Directors
- 25-04-08 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Expenses for Conferences, Board of Directors

- 25-04-09 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Determination of Electoral Circuits, Board of Directors
- 25-04-10 To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Cleaning Up Formatting, Board of Directors

### **Explanation of Overtures**

Congregations, official conferences (Circuit Forums, Pastors and Educators Conferences), and the Board of Directors of the Kansas District may submit overtures to the Convention. Overtures are recommendations in the form of proposed resolutions requesting action on the part of the Convention. These overtures are then assigned to the appointed Floor Committees. The Floor Committees will hold hearings before and sometimes during the Convention. Resolutions for consideration by the Convention shall be brought to the floor of the Convention by Floor Committees.

**To Prioritize “Abiding in the Word” as a Mission and Ministry Focus for the 2025-2028 Triennium**

1           **WHEREAS**, Christian believers in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod believe, teach, and  
2 confess that the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God (2 Pt. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16-17); and  
3

4           **WHEREAS**, “We believe, teach and confess that the Gospel of the gracious justification of the  
5 sinner through faith in Jesus Christ is not only the chief doctrine of Holy Scripture and a basic  
6 presupposition for the interpretation of Scripture, but is the heart and center of our Christian faith and  
7 theology (material principle). We also believe, teach, and confess that only “the Word of God shall  
8 establish articles of faith” (SA, II, ii, 15), and that “the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New  
9 Testaments are the only rule and norm according to which all doctrines and teachers alike must be  
10 appraised and judged” (FC, Ep, Rule and Norm, 1.) (formal principle). The Gospel, which is the center of  
11 our theology, is the Gospel to which the Scriptures bear witness, while the Scriptures from which we  
12 derive our theology direct us steadfastly to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” (A Statement of Scriptural and  
13 Confessional Principles. 1973 Synod Convention Resolution 3-01. [www.lcms.org/scriptural-and-](http://www.lcms.org/scriptural-and-confessional-principles)  
14 [confessional-principles](http://www.lcms.org/scriptural-and-confessional-principles)); and  
15

16           **WHEREAS**, “We believe, teach and confess that because the Scriptures have God as their  
17 author, they possess both the divine power to make men wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ  
18 (causative authority), as well as the divine authority to serve as the church’s sole standard of doctrine and  
19 life (normative authority). We recognize that the authority of Scripture can be accepted only through faith  
20 and not merely by rational demonstration. As men of faith, we affirm not only that Holy Scripture is  
21 powerful and efficacious, but also that it is “the only judge, rule, and norm according to which, as the only  
22 touchstone, all doctrines should and must be understood, and judged as good or evil, right or wrong.”  
23 (FC, Ep, Rule and Norm, 7) (A Statement of Scriptural and Confessional Principles. 1973 Synod  
24 Convention Resolution 3-01. [www.lcms.org/scriptural-and-confessional-principles](http://www.lcms.org/scriptural-and-confessional-principles)); and  
25

26           **WHEREAS**, Jesus says in John 15:1-8, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the  
27 vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear  
28 fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have  
29 spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the  
30 vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in  
31 me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not  
32 abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the  
33 fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be  
34 done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”;  
35 and  
36

37           **WHEREAS**, Jesus says in John 8:31-32, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my  
38 disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”; and  
39

40           **WHEREAS**, Martin Luther earnestly encouraged diligence in learning Scripture and the  
41 catechism:

42           “You are daily under the dominion of the devil, and he does not rest day or night in seeking to  
43 take you unawares and to kindle in your heart unbelief and wicked thoughts against...the  
44 commandments. Therefore, you must constantly keep God’s Word in your heart, on your lips, and in your  
45 ears. For where the heart stands idle and the Word is not heard, the devil breaks in and does his damage  
46 before we realize it. On the other hand, when we seriously ponder the Word, hear it, and put it to use,  
47 such is its power that it never departs without fruit. It always awakens new understanding, pleasure, and  
48 devotion, and it constantly creates clean hearts and minds. For this Word is not idle or dead, but effective  
49 and living.” (Kolb-Wengert, LC I 100-101); and  
50

51           **WHEREAS**, In baptism, Christian believers are connected to Christ as branches to the vine,  
52 which gives us our identity. “Living as the baptized” (1 Pt. 2:9-10) is who we are connected to Christ. In  
53 this relationship that He has established with us through His Spirit, we will bear fruit in our lives, good

54 fruit. The fruit of faith which consists in all the good works that Christians do, works done according to the  
55 Ten Commandments, for the glory of God and the good of our neighbor; and

56 **WHEREAS**, Christ supplies all we need to bear abundant fruit through receiving the Word and  
57 Sacrament in church. The preaching one hears, the teaching one receives in Bible class, and receiving  
58 Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith; and

59  
60 **WHEREAS**, The Word of God also comes to His people at home through personal and family  
61 Bible study, Bible reading, and devotion; and

62  
63 **WHEREAS**, Timothy Mech observes that what is needed for addressing root problems of the  
64 Church today has been available to us all along:

65 "The answer to the challenge for the Church in this self-absorbed culture is found where it has  
66 always been found, in the Word of God. Interesting, isn't it? That almost all of the problems we  
67 face in the church and everyday life have to do with our being disconnected from the Word of  
68 God in one way or another? We need more of the Word of God in our lives, not less." (*Built on the*  
69 *Rock: The Healthy Congregation. CPH 2017, p. 28*); and

70  
71 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Ted Kober also notes in his book, "Built on the Rock: The Healthy Congregation,"  
72 the following:

73 "Healthy churches possess two main characteristics that distinguish them from the unhealthy:

- 74 1. Their members, especially the leadership, are regularly engaged in God's Word, and as  
75 demonstrated by their familiarity with it and their desire to apply it to conflict.
- 76 2. Their members, beginning with the leaders, model reconciliation, through confession and  
77 forgiveness (p. 56)."; and,

78  
79 "The more spiritually mature the members of a church are, especially the leaders, the healthier  
80 the church" (p. 57); and,

81  
82 "(Kober's) observation, based on reconciliation experience, has led (him) to develop a rule-of-  
83 thumb measurement—a healthy church has at least 20 percent of its average worship attendance  
84 participating in adult Bible study." (p. 58); and

85  
86 "The Bible asserts that our spiritual growth and health depends on our connection to Christ  
87 through His Word. Those who dwell richly in that Word demonstrate spiritual maturity and health,  
88 individually and corporately. The Bible is our final authority on what makes a church healthy."  
89 (71); and

90  
91 **WHEREAS**, Lack of a strong baptismal identity that is not regularly fed with the Word and  
92 Sacrament of Christ, especially in the context of an increasingly secular culture, is a serious obstacle in  
93 our calling to proclaim, teach, and share the Gospel, leaving the baptized immature in God's Word (Eph.  
94 4:13-14) and ill-equipped to "make a defense" (1 Pt. 3:15) and engage in mission and ministry activities;  
95 and

96  
97 **WHEREAS**, That as the members of the District faithfully and consistently "Abide in the Word,"  
98 the idols of vice are continually loosened on their hearts, and the new man is freed more and more to  
99 embrace those virtues the Holy Spirit is laboring to grow within God's people, so that we are fit for service  
100 to our neighbor, equipping us for the tasks God has prepared for us; therefore be it

101  
102 **Resolved**, That the District and its members prioritize strengthening baptismal identity in the  
103 coming triennium, equipping and encouraging the baptized to stand firm in the faith and resist being  
104 conformed to the world (Rom. 12:2) and to move forward boldly as the baptized people of God to expand  
105 the Kingdom by being regularly in the Word of God at church and at home (Deut. 6:4-9; Rom. 10:17; Heb.  
106 10:25); and be it further

107 **Resolved**, That the District and its members commit themselves to weekly worship and the study  
108 of God's Word so that faith in Christ is nurtured and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. Parents, then, take  
109 what the pastor taught, and teach their children at home, as Luther states in his Small Catechism, "As the  
110 head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household."; and be it further

111 **Resolved**, That the District congregations and schools promote and use weekly *The*  
112 *Congregation at Prayer* resources developed by the District Parish Education Committee  
113 (<https://kslcms.org/education-youth/parish-education/cap/>). *The Congregation at Prayer* suggests daily  
114 readings, learn-by-heart Scripture and Catechism verses, a hymn to sing, along with a psalm and prayer  
115 to pray. It coordinates with the Church calendar; and be it further  
116

117 **Resolved**, That the District congregations and schools implement Lutheran-based curriculum in  
118 parish, school, and home settings that foster faith and growth in God's Word across the lifespan from  
119 early learning through adult education; and be it further  
120

121 **Resolved**, That the District congregations be encouraged to bring their youth groups together at  
122 least once a year to study the Word of God and that Circuits provide ways (i.e. Theology on Tap) for  
123 adults to come together to study the Word of God; and be it further  
124

125 **Resolved**, That the professional church workers of the District make every effort to attend the  
126 required yearly conferences, and be encouraged to attend other gatherings (i.e. Circuit Winkels, DCE  
127 Clusters, Pre-Lent, summer continuing education opportunities, etc.) where they can receive and grow in  
128 the Word of God with other church workers; and be it further  
129

130 **Resolved**, That the lay people of the District be encouraged to immerse themselves in the Word  
131 of God through such things as podcasts (i.e. The Word of the Lord Endures Forever) and other continuing  
132 education opportunities (i.e. The Lay Bible Institute) where they can continue to spiritually grow (Eph.  
133 4:13-15); and be it finally  
134

135 **Resolved**, That the Kansas District memorialize the Synod as it gathers at the 2026 LCMS  
136 convention recommending adoption of a mission and ministry emphasis consistent with helping Lutheran  
137 Christians hold fast to their baptismal identity, based solely in the Word of God, as is the case with the  
138 Synod's current emphasis of *Making Disciples for Life* (2023 LCMS Res. 4-02).

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Cultivate a Culture of Life in the Congregations and Schools of the LCMS Kansas District**

1           **WHEREAS**, All life is valuable to God especially the most vulnerable (John 3:16–17; Psalm  
2 139:13–16; Jer. 1:5; Luke 1:41–44; Psalm 31:14–15; Job 10:9–12; Matt. 6:26; 18:10; Psalm 82:3–4;  
3 Small Catechism [SC] III, First Article); and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, God created us to care about other people and to help them in their times of need  
6 (SC I, Fifth Commandment); and  
7

8           **WHEREAS**, Mothers, fathers, and children are a gift from God entrusted to each other’s care to  
9 form a family and serve Him through their love for each other (Gen. 1:27–28; Eph. 5:22–6:4; Psalm  
10 127:3); and  
11

12           **WHEREAS**, Christians are called “to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves” (Prov.  
13 31:8-9); and  
14

15           **WHEREAS**, The “Value Them Both Amendment” was defeated in the State of Kansas on August  
16 2, 2022, thereby preserving a constitutional right to personal autonomy which includes determining  
17 whether to continue a pregnancy thus making the State of Kansas a safe-haven and destination place of  
18 abortion for many women in Kansas and surrounding states; and  
19

20           **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has long worked to promote a  
21 culture of life; and  
22

23           **WHEREAS**, There are many pro-life organizations in the State of Kansas which work to build a  
24 culture of life; and  
25

26           **WHEREAS**, Establishing a culture of life begins in our churches, schools, and communities;  
27 therefore be it  
28

29           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District in convention give thanks to God for His unending  
30 mercies, especially in overturning *Roe v. Wade*, thus preserving the lives of many unborn children; and  
31 be it further  
32

33           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District congregations and schools be encouraged to use Synod  
34 life ministry support and training materials, including but not limited to resources for policy manuals,  
35 guidance to life ministry agencies, and encouragement to access grants from allied institutions; and be it  
36 further  
37

38           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District leadership encourage congregational and school  
39 involvement with life ministry in ways such as education, advocacy, and human care efforts such as  
40 forming a Life Team through Lutherans for Life of Kansas, participating in sidewalk counseling, contacting  
41 legislators, etc.; and be it further  
42

43           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District congregations and schools be encouraged to work to  
44 provide care for those suffering from the effects of abortion and encourage God’s people to show mercy  
45 by providing options to abortion such as adoption, pre- and postnatal care, housing support, offerings to  
46 support the purchase of an ultrasound machine for local pregnancy service centers, etc.; and be it finally  
47

48           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District encourage all pastors, teachers, congregations, and  
49 schools to teach and proclaim human life as sacred and, in word and deed, live out mercy, life, and  
50 forgiveness in Jesus Christ our Savior (John 10:10).

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Increase Faithful Stewardship in the LCMS Kansas District**

1           **WHEREAS**, Christian Stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's  
2 family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes; and  
3

4           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards are stewards by virtue of creation and their re-creation in Holy  
5 Baptism; therefore, they belong to the Lord. *2 Corinthians 5:16-17, "From now on, therefore, we regard no*  
6 *one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him*  
7 *thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold,*  
8 *the new has come."* and  
9

10           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards have been entrusted with life and life's resources and given the  
11 privilege of responsibly and joyfully managing them for Him. *1 Chronicles 29:14, "But who am I, and what*  
12 *is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own*  
13 *have we given you."*; and  
14

15           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards recognize that their lives are not solo performances but are personal  
16 responses to God, lived out within the community of faith to benefit the whole world. *1 Peter 4:10, "As*  
17 *each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."*; and  
18

19           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards recognize that the Lord sets them apart from the world and by the  
20 transforming power of the Gospel sends them into the world to live out the Gospel. *Romans 12:2, "Do not*  
21 *be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may*  
22 *discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."*; and  
23

24           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards recognize that their stewardship flows out of God's act of love for  
25 them in Christ which empowers them, in turn, to love others in acts of Christ-like love. *1 John 4:19, "We*  
26 *love because he first loved us."*; and  
27

28           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards live intentionally in the light of the Lord's eternal purpose while being  
29 firmly committed to the here and now. *Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth,*  
30 *where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in*  
31 *heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where*  
32 *your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*; and  
33

34           **WHEREAS**, God's stewards are blessed with resources to aid in faithfully utilizing all that God  
35 has entrusted to their care, including presentations of stewardship principles through Bible studies and  
36 teaching (i.e. Philippians Conferences) and planned giving presentations by advocates trained through  
37 the partnership of the LCMS Kansas District and the LCMS Foundation; therefore be it  
38

39           **Resolved**, That the people of the LCMS Kansas District, as God's stewards of His gifts, are to be  
40 thanked for their continued giving of support to their local congregations, ministries and missions, and to  
41 the LCMS Kansas District and to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and be it further  
42

43           **Resolved**, That the congregations, or groups of congregations, of the LCMS Kansas District be  
44 encouraged to utilize the available resources for education and growth by providing opportunities for  
45 stewardship seminars and gift planning presentations by our trained advocates; and be it finally  
46

47           **Resolved**, That the people of the LCMS Kansas District be encouraged to remain steadfast  
48 under trial; to recognize that everything they have is from God; and to continue to give generously and not  
49 grudgingly as Christ, our dear Lord, first gave of Himself to us. *1 Timothy 6:17-19, "As for the rich in this*  
50 *present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on*  
51 *God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be*  
52 *generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future,*  
53 *so that they may take hold of that which is truly life."*



**To Support LCMS Mission Work in Francophone West and Central Africa**

1           **WHEREAS**, God has commanded His people to “go therefore and make disciples of all nations”  
2 (Matt. 28); and  
3

4           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Kansas District has supported international mission work in French-  
5 speaking Africa since 1997, focusing initially on the country of Guinea, where funds have been sent  
6 annually to support missionary work, church planting, mercy care, and other needs; and  
7

8           **WHEREAS**, God has blessed the work in Guinea in myriad ways, establishing a foundation for  
9 future Gospel outreach through dedicated missionaries and indigenous workers; and  
10

11           **WHEREAS**, In 2016, the District transitioned to “Phase 2” of its mission strategy in West Africa in  
12 response to a growing need for theological education in the region, providing support for the Lutheran  
13 Center for Theological Studies (CLET) in Dapaong, Togo, primarily through tuition funding for Guinean  
14 students; and  
15

16           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Office of International Mission recently helped establish two new local  
17 CLET seminaries in Guinea and the Congo, responding to a need for well-trained indigenous Lutheran  
18 evangelists, pastors, and professors in this Muslim-majority region; and  
19

20           **WHEREAS**, LCMS personnel have relocated to the Congo (Central Africa) in response to  
21 personnel changes, threats of violence, and emerging opportunities but plan to continue serving French-  
22 speaking countries to the north, including Guinea; and  
23

24           **WHEREAS**, LCMS mission outreach in West and Central Africa includes important human care  
25 efforts through which the love of Christ is shared, including Mercy Medical Teams and Community Health  
26 Education; therefore be it  
27

28           **Resolved**, That we give thanks to God for the LCMS missionaries now serving West and Central  
29 Africa as well as the seminary students and indigenous church workers, with prayers that God would  
30 guard their well-being and bless their work in advancing the Gospel in this region; and be it further  
31

32           **Resolved**, That the Kansas District continue to support theological education and other mission  
33 outreach in West and Central Africa, including Guinea, through the Pentecost Offering and regular  
34 contributions to missionaries and related projects; and be it further  
35

36           **Resolved**, That the Assistant to the District President for Congregation Services, working with the  
37 LCMS Office of International Mission, identify ways to strengthen our collaboration in the region, and be it  
38 finally  
39

40           **Resolved**, That convention delegates and guests rise and sing the common doxology in thanks  
41 and praise to God for His many blessings in the areas of evangelism, church planting, seminary training,  
42 mercy work, and missionary care as we mark 28 years of partnership with the Synod in Francophone  
43 West and Central Africa.

*Submitted by LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors, Board of Missions*

**To Conduct Weekday Services and Offer the Lord's Supper More Than Only Every Sunday Morning**

1           **WHEREAS**, Daily worship services are the normative practice for God's people under the  
2 Levitical Code and in the history of the apostolic Church; and

3  
4           **WHEREAS**, Our national Synod offices and both our Seminaries model daily weekday services,  
5 along with many of our congregations throughout our Synod and

6  
7           **WHEREAS**, Ordained Ministers of the LCMS have unconditionally vowed:  
8 Among us the Mass is celebrated every Lord's day and on other festivals, when the sacrament is made  
9 available to those who wish to partake of it, after they have been examined and absolved. We also keep  
10 traditional liturgical forms, such as the order of readings, prayers, vestments, and other similar things.  
11 (Apology XXIV 1 ); and

12  
13           **WHEREAS**, Some congregations already have at least one weekday service and the prayer  
14 would be that all our congregations in the Kansas District have at least one weekday service if not more,  
15 and

16  
17           **WHEREAS**, The people need this and even if the Pastor is the only one present it is their fitting  
18 devotional commitment in the Office of the Holy Ministry; therefore, be it

19  
20           **Resolved**, To encourage congregations of the Kansas District to return to the historical practice  
21 of offering weekday Services; and be it further

22  
          **Resolved**, To offer the Lord's Supper more than every Sunday morning.

*Submitted by Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Basehor*

**To Stop Using the Title "Father"**

1           **WHEREAS**, Some pastors in the LCMS have begun using the title "Father" in their ministry and  
2 dealings with God's people; and,

3  
4           **WHEREAS**, The title "Father" has historically been refused by Lutherans everywhere; and

5  
6           **WHEREAS**, Our Lord Jesus commands us in Matthew 23:9 - "And call no man your father on  
7 earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven." (ESV); therefore, be it

8  
9           **Resolved**, That all LCMS pastors cease and desist from using the title "Father" immediately.

*Submitted by Circuit 10*

**To Support the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation**

1           **WHEREAS**, In 2014, the State of Kansas enacted the “Tax Credit for Low Income Students  
2 Scholarship” program, the purpose of which is to provide scholarships for low income children to attend  
3 the school of their parents’ choice; and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, Scholarship are funded by donations made by individuals and business to an  
6 authorized scholarship granting organization; and  
7

8           **WHEREAS**, Under the provisions of the program, the state has budgeted \$10 million to be made  
9 available to donors in the form of a 75% credit against their state tax liability on donations up to a  
10 maximum of \$500,000; and  
11

12           **WHEREAS**, All children in grades K-8 with family incomes at or beneath 250% of the federal  
13 poverty level are eligible to receive scholarships of up to \$8,000 to attend a qualified schools K-12  
14 schools of the LCMS Kansas District; and  
15

16           **WHEREAS**, The requirements for a school to participate include:

- 17           1. the school is accredited by the state board of education or an accrediting agency recognized by
- 18           the state board (including National Lutheran School Accreditation),
- 19           2. the school officially notifies the state board of its intention to participate in the program, and
- 20           3. that the school complies with the requirements of the program, none of which restrict the school
- 21           in any way from fulfilling its Christ-centered mission or require it to compromise its Lutheran
- 22           identity; and  
23

24           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors urged the formation of a scholarship  
25 granting organization for the benefit of Lutheran schools in Kansas; and  
26

27           **WHEREAS**, In June 2020, the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation was  
28 incorporated with the Kansas Secretary of State as a new non-profit entity, with the approval of its newly  
29 organized Board of Directors; and  
30

31           **WHEREAS**, The KLS Scholarship Foundation was officially designated by the Internal Revenue  
32 Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and therefore can receive tax-deductible contributions;  
33 and  
34

35           **WHEREAS**, In November 2024, the KLS Scholarship Foundation was recognized by the state  
36 board of education and could begin operating under the provisions of the scholarship program; and  
37

38           **WHEREAS**, “The mission of the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation is to support  
39 Lutheran schools in sustaining and expanding Christ-centered education for all children” ; and  
40

41           **WHEREAS**, Under the provisions of the “Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship  
42 Program” the sole purpose of the KLS Scholarship Foundation is to provide scholarships for eligible  
43 children attending qualified K-12 schools of the LCMS Kansas District; and  
44

45           **WHEREAS**, Donations to the KLS Scholarship Foundation:

- 46           1. helps children and families receive a Christ-centered education who otherwise could not afford
- 47           one;
- 48           2. sustains Lutheran schools in Kansas as they expand their mission and impact;
- 49           3. ensure that more people come to know wisdom, knowledge, and salvation in Jesus Christ;
- 50           therefore be it  
51

52           **Resolved**, That the congregations of the LCMS Kansas District disseminate information about  
53 the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation; and be it further

54           **Resolved**, That individuals and business-owners throughout the Kansas District prayerfully  
55 consider becoming donors to the KLS Scholarship Foundation (after consulting with their tax  
56 professional), even if their congregation does not presently have a Lutheran school ministry; and be it  
57 finally

58  
59           **Resolved**, That any donations to the KLS Scholarship Foundation be over-and-above the  
60 regular, proportionate, and first-fruits giving of faithful Christian stewards to their congregations.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Encourage National Lutheran School Accreditation**

1           **WHEREAS**, National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) has been accrediting schools and  
2 early childhood centers of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod since 1978; and  
3

4           **WHEREAS**, NLSA encourages, assists and recognizes schools and early childhood centers that  
5 provide quality Lutheran education and engage in continuous improvement.  
6

7           **WHEREAS**, NLSA is completely voluntary and is available for every school and early childhood  
8 center of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and  
9

10          **WHEREAS**, The goal of the NLSA process is to help centers and schools evaluate themselves  
11 based upon their unique purposes and national standards; and  
12

13          **WHEREAS**, NLSA is a process of self-evaluation followed by a visit of objective observers  
14 designed to help Lutheran schools and centers improve the quality of their programs; and  
15

16          **WHEREAS**, NLSA is the highest form of accreditation a Lutheran school can achieve because it  
17 evaluates the school's true mission and purpose; and  
18

19          **WHEREAS**, Lutheran schools are an opportunity for outreach to the unchurched and others who  
20 are unaware of the saving grace of Christ, while at the same time they support the catechesis and faith  
21 formation of children from families that are members of LCMS congregations; and  
22

23          **WHEREAS**, Lutheran schools exist in a competitive market place, competing with public schools,  
24 a growing number of independent, Christian schools, exclusive private schools and parents considering  
25 homeschooling; and  
26

27          **WHEREAS**, Parents exploring educational options for their children will be influenced whenever  
28 a school can demonstrate its quality. NLSA provides that assistance; and  
29

30          **WHEREAS**, For purposes of teacher licensure, professional development, and additional  
31 services, the state of Kansas requires non-public schools to be state-board accredited and does not  
32 recognize NLSA; and  
33

34          **WHEREAS**, There is concern that the demands of state board accreditation may interfere with  
35 the unique mission of our Lutheran schools; and  
36

37          **WHEREAS**, 6 of 15 schools and 4 of 41 early childhood centers in the Kansas District participate  
38 in NLSA; therefore be it  
39

40          **Resolved**, That the schools and early childhood centers of the Kansas District be encouraged to  
41 participate in NLSA; and be it further  
42

43          **Resolved**, That Board of Education and Youth along with the Executive Assistant for  
44 Congregational and Schools Services work with schools and early childhood ministries to identify barriers  
45 to participation in NLSA and develop strategies for overcoming those barriers; and be it finally  
46

47          **Resolved**, That the Executive Assistant for Congregational and Schools Services works with  
48 LCMS School Ministry, and the Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools (KAIRS) to  
49 petition the state board of education to recognize NLSA as a valid accreditation model for Lutheran  
50 schools in Kansas.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Embrace the Set Apart to Serve Church Worker Initiative**

1       **WHEREAS**, Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray  
2 earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (Matt. 9:37–38); and  
3

4       **WHEREAS**, Since 1847 to the present day, a key objective of the LCMS has been the  
5 recruitment and preparation of pastors, teachers, and other commissioned church workers to preach,  
6 teach and share the Gospel of Jesus for eternal salvation; and  
7

8       **WHEREAS**, The 2019 Synod convention adopted Resolution 6-01, “To Support and Participate in  
9 the Comprehensive Church Worker Recruitment Initiative,” which asked Districts and congregation of the  
10 Synod to:

11       ... commend, financially support, and directly participate in this comprehensive, multi-year church  
12 worker recruitment initiative with (but not limited to) the following objectives:

- 13       - identifying, catechizing, encouraging, and supporting young boys and girls for  
14 church worker vocations;
- 15       - instilling church worker vocations as sacred and joyful, a “calling from God,”  
16 vocations of integrity and fulfillment, grounded in Christ and baptismal salvation;
- 17       - developing the “whole person” throughout this formation process: spiritually, in  
18 character, confessionally, physically, emotionally, synodically, and intellectually;
- 19       - supporting, encouraging, and caring for existing church workers for the welfare of  
20 the workers, for the proclamation and witness of the Gospel, and for workers to  
21 be healthy advocates of next generation church workers (*Proceedings*, 158); and  
22

23       **WHEREAS**, The 2023 Synod convention adopted Resolution 6-01, “To Affirm and Strengthen *Set*  
24 *Apart to Serve* in Word and Action”; and  
25

26       **WHEREAS**, *Set Apart to Serve* (SAS) encompasses both the initial youth phase (infant baptism–  
27 12th grade) and a second phase focusing on individuals who may be considering professional church  
28 work vocations as a second career; and  
29

30       **WHEREAS**, SAS was piloted in all 35 LCMS districts testing SAS church work recruitment  
31 strategies and resources. These resources were made freely available synod wide by the end of calendar  
32 year 2023; and  
33

34       **WHEREAS**, The pastoral office is the one divinely mandated office by our Lord (John 20:19–23;  
35 Rom. 10:14–15; Eph. 4:11–16) and the seven LCMS commissioned church work vocations have been  
36 established in love to support the Office of the Holy Ministry (Lutheran school teachers, directors of  
37 Christian education, directors of family life ministry, deaconesses, directors of parish music, directors of  
38 church ministries, directors of Christian outreach) (*Lutheran Service Book: Agenda*, p. 210 and 218); and  
39 **WHEREAS**, In the last five years, approximately twice as many LCMS pastors are exiting the pastoral office  
40 (retirement or death) as there are newly called and ordained pastors; and  
41

42       **WHEREAS**, In April 2024, there were 51 unfilled calls of congregations calling a seminary  
43 candidate, 406 congregations calling a sole pastor, 56 congregations calling a senior pastor, 67  
44 congregations calling an associate pastor, and 529 non-calling congregations for various reasons; and  
45

46       **WHEREAS**, In 2023 our LCMS schools requested 455 new teachers from our Concordia  
47 universities, but only 84 students were graduating with teaching degrees; furthermore, LCMS  
48 congregations, schools and entities requested 79 other LCMS commissioned workers for placements, but  
49 only 64 church work students were graduating from the Concordia universities; therefore be it  
50

51       **Resolved**, That Kansas District congregation members and families, church workers,  
52 congregations, schools, and recipients of the ministry of Synod church workers and institutions be  
53 encouraged intentionally to pray for more ordained and commissioned workers in the church, for the  
54 continued and increased proclamation of the Gospel of Christ; and be it further

55           **Resolved**, That everyone in the Kansas District, including key influential adults (pastors, parents,  
56 grandparents, teachers, deaconesses, directors of Christian education, youth workers, congregation  
57 members, and other church workers) be urged to encourage youth and adults to consider a full-time  
58 church work vocation; and be it further

59  
60           **Resolved**, That LCMS congregations, schools and entities make use of the SAS resources  
61 (found at [lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve](https://lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve)) and the SAS church work recruitment curriculum (produced by  
62 Concordia Publishing and available for download at [cph.org/set-apart-to-serve-school-resource-kit](https://cph.org/set-apart-to-serve-school-resource-kit)); and  
63 be it further

64  
65           **Resolved**, That both district and congregation leaders enhance their financial support of  
66 individuals who are enrolled in LCMS church work programs at our Concordia universities and  
67 seminaries; and be it further

68           **Resolved**, That both district and congregation leaders intentionally address the compensation of church  
69 workers, foster church worker wellness, and encourage love and appreciation for all ordained and  
70 commissioned church workers in their district's congregations, schools and entities; and be it finally

71  
72           **Resolved**, That all Kansas District congregations, schools, and youth events be strongly  
73 encouraged to use SAS strategies, resources, and curriculum, as we strive together to accomplish one of  
74 the Synod's crucial official objectives, to "Recruit and train pastors, teachers, and other professional  
75 church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing growth" (Constitution Article III 3) in our life  
76 together.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*



**To Plant Schools and Lutheran Early Childhood Centers in the LCMS Kansas District**

1       **WHEREAS**, The natural family, with parents directing the educational, cultural, and spiritual  
2 formation of their children, is the fundamental social unit that maintains and underpins society; and  
3

4       **WHEREAS**, Schools have been developed and employed to assist parents in teaching letters,  
5 the liberating arts and technical skills that equip children in areas outside of the parents' expertise; and  
6

7       **WHEREAS**, School teachers, who spend much time with children and typically are held in high  
8 esteem, can greatly affect the social and spiritual development of the children in their classrooms; and  
9

10       **WHEREAS**, The establishment of Lutheran schools to teach and catechize has been a priority of  
11 faithful Lutherans in North America since the first Lutheran school was opened by Swedish Lutherans in  
12 Delaware in 1640; and  
13

14       **WHEREAS**, Modern public schools are devoid of references to a creative and redemptive God;  
15 and  
16

17       **WHEREAS**, In The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in 2023–2024 there were 1,641  
18 early childhood centers, 732 elementary schools, 623 middle schools, and 109 high schools (2023–2024  
19 *Lutheran School Statistics*; [www.luthed.org](http://www.luthed.org)); and  
20

21       **WHEREAS**, As of September 2024, members of the Kansas District are operating 40 early  
22 childhood centers with an enrollment of 1,941, and District congregations and associations are operating  
23 14 Elementary Schools and 1 High School with a total enrollment of 1,141; and  
24

25       **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Kansas District Assistant to the President for Congregational & School  
26 Services, with associated boards and committees, provides administrative support of early childhood  
27 centers and schools as they interface with the Kansas Department of Education and with other  
28 accrediting agencies (e.g., National Lutheran School Accreditation); and  
29

30       **WHEREAS**, Six Kansas District congregations are studying the feasibility of forming a Lutheran  
31 school, some with the assistance of an LCMS School Ministry Genesis Consultant; and  
32

33       **WHEREAS**, There are many different models for a school ministry including classical, microschool,  
34 home-school cooperatives, and others, in addition to the traditional Lutheran school model; and  
35

36       **WHEREAS**, Development and implementation of the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship  
37 Foundation provides a leveraged mechanism to support Lutheran schools in Kansas; and  
38

39       **WHEREAS**, Early childhood centers, elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools have a  
40 unique opportunity to share the Gospel of the crucified and risen Christ for the forgiveness of sins; and  
41

42       **WHEREAS**, The Office of National Mission (ONM) has identified planting schools as a priority for  
43 this triennium (2023 Resolution 4-03); and  
44

45       **WHEREAS**, The 2017 *LCMS Study of Young Adults* found that a typical congregation with higher  
46 retention rates operated or was associated with a Lutheran school (*Retention of Lutheran Millennials:*  
47 *LCMS Study of Young Adults*, 2017); therefore be it  
48

49       **Resolved**, That all congregations of the LCMS Kansas District be encouraged to support and uplift  
50 Lutheran schools in prayer and encourage these schools to continue to be faithful to God's Word and  
51 strive for excellence in catechizing and educating the students in their care; and be it further  
52

53           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District, its circuits, and congregations investigate the possibility  
54 of planting schools and early childhood centers to support parents and families in the cultural and spiritual  
55 formation of our children; and be it further

56           **Resolved**, That individual members of LCMS Kansas District congregations be encouraged to  
57 prayerfully and financially support, especially through leveraged mechanisms such as the Kansas  
58 Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation, elementary and secondary education in a distinctly Lutheran  
59 setting that includes catechesis of children from Lutheran families and non-Lutheran members of their  
60 communities; and be it further

61  
62           **Resolved**, That such places identified for school planting work in partnership with the LCMS  
63 Kansas District and LCMS School Ministry to provide training, support, and, as available, funding for  
64 locally identified new school starts; and be it finally

65  
66           **Resolved** that the LCMS Kansas District in convention rise and give thanks to God for our Lutheran  
67 early childhood centers and schools by singing the doxology.

*Submitted by LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors, Board of Education and Youth*

**Use of the Historic One Year Lectionary**

1           **WHEREAS**, The three-year lectionary appeared in 1969, as a result of Vatican Council II, a move  
2 the Roman Catholic church had done away with most of the continuity that existed with 1500 years of  
3 Church practice; and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, The Liturgical Movement and the ecclesiastical weight of the Roman Catholic church  
6 adopted the three-year lectionary; and  
7

8           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS joined other groups in adopting a version of the three-year lectionary in  
9 1982 and a further revision of a three year lectionary appeared in 2006 with the publication of Lutheran  
10 Service Book; and  
11

12           **WHEREAS**, Ordained Ministers of the LCMS have unconditionally vowed:  
13 Concerning church regulations made by human beings, it is taught to keep those that may be kept without  
14 sin and that serve to maintain peace and good order in the church, such as specific celebrations,  
15 festivals, etc. (emphasis added) However, people are also instructed not to burden consciences with  
16 them as if such things were necessary for salvation. Moreover, it is taught that all rules and traditions  
17 made by human beings for the purpose of appeasing God and of earning grace are contrary to the gospel  
18 and the teaching concerning faith in Christ (ACXV.1-2); and  
19

20           **WHEREAS**, We gladly keep the old traditions set up in the church because they are useful and  
21 promote tranquility, (emphasis added) and we interpret them in an evangelical way; excluding the opinion  
22 which holds that they justify. Our enemies falsely accuse us of abolishing good ordinances and church  
23 discipline. We can truthfully claim that in our churches the public liturgy is more decent than theirs, and if  
24 you look at it correctly, we are more faithful to the canons than our opponents are (Apology XV.38); and  
25

26           **WHEREAS**, Nevertheless, we teach that liberty in these matters should be exercised moderately;  
27 so that the inexperienced may not take offense and, on account of an abuse of liberty; become more  
28 hostile to the true teaching of the gospel. Nothing in the customary rites may be changed without good  
29 reason. Instead, in order to foster harmony, those ancient customs should be observed that can be  
30 observed without sin or without proving to be a great burden. (emphasis added) {Apology XV.51). and  
31

32           **WHEREAS**, Ordained Ministers of the LCMS have unconditionally vowed:  
33 Among us the Mass is celebrated every Lord's day and on other festivals, when the sacrament is made  
34 available to  
35 those who wish to partake of it, after they have been examined and absolved. We also keep **traditional**  
36 liturgical forms, such as the order of readings, (emphasis added) prayers, vestments, and other similar  
37 things. (Apology XXIV.1); and  
38

39           **WHEREAS**, There is an inexhaustible amount of resources of sermons and writings of Church  
40 Father and Lutheran Fathers on the Historical One Year Lectionary; and  
41

42           **WHEREAS**, Concordia Publishing House includes Lectionary and Church Year resources for the Historic  
43 One Year Lectionary, and  
44

45           **WHEREAS**, It is fitting to embrace the historical practice of the Church and our Lutheran heritage  
46 and promote harmony and unity among our congregations of the Kansas District; therefore be it  
47

48           **Resolved**, To encourage congregations of the Kansas District to use the Historic One Year  
49 Lectionary.

*Submitted by Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Basehor*

**To Plant Churches in the LCMS Kansas District**

1           **WHEREAS**, Church planting is the establishment of a new gathering of believers around Word  
2 and Sacrament with the intent of forming a sustainable congregation in communities that experiencing  
3 population growth or are without an LCMS presence; and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, As LCMS congregations experience decline, the work of church planting is even  
6 more vital in carrying out the work Christ has called the church to do in reaching the lost and gathering  
7 the scattered; and  
8

9           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM) has developed a systematic approach  
10 to planting new churches through a church planting initiative called “Church Planting Simplified”; and  
11

12           **WHEREAS**, The Bolick Foundation has granted \$2 million to the LCMS for the church planting  
13 initiative in her districts; and  
14

15           **WHEREAS**, Effective church planting models that focus on Word and Sacrament ministry  
16 include:

- 17                   a) the “mother/daughter” model where one congregation plants a new daughter  
18                   congregation, sharing people and resources;
- 19                   b) the “sister congregation” model where a group of congregations in a geographic area  
20                   work together to plant a congregation; and  
21

22           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Kansas District currently has two church plants located in Concordia  
23 (“sister/church model”) and DeSoto (“mother/daughter” model); and  
24

25           **WHEREAS**, Opportunities for new church starts are best identified at a local level with individual  
26 congregations or circuits making the identifications in partnership with district and synod; and  
27

28           **WHEREAS**, Successful plants involve a group of committed laity as the sustaining core,  
29 sustained with the help of a neighboring pastor; therefore be it  
30

31           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District encourage pastors and lay people to identify and initiate  
32 local opportunities for planting new congregations; and be it further  
33

34           **Resolved**, That, by the grace of God, the LCMS Kansas District set a goal to plant at least one new  
35 congregation every triennium and ask for the prayers and the financial support of the entire Kansas  
36 District in this process; and be it finally  
37

38           **Resolved**, That such places identified for church planting work in partnership with the LCMS  
39 Kansas District and LCMS Church Planting to provide training, support, and, as available, funding for  
40 locally identified new church starts.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Promote Partnership in the Gospel in the LCMS Kansas District**

1           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS has experienced a steady decline in baptisms, confirmations,  
2           communicant membership, church attendance, and offerings since 1972, with the Kansas District (like all  
3           other LCMS districts) declining in membership over the past decade; and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, The Kansas District currently includes 155 congregations, 35% of which have an  
6           average weekly attendance of 50 or fewer; and  
7

8           **WHEREAS**, Population projections for Kansas include continued losses in rural areas, an  
9           increase in the aging population, and slower growth, overall, than the nation as a whole; and  
10

11           **WHEREAS**, An increasing number of people, including Kansans, are not identifying with any  
12           religion (“nones”), a change attributed to increasing secularization and changing demographic patterns;  
13           and  
14

15           **WHEREAS**, The Lord has obliged His Church to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins in  
16           His name to all nations (Luke 24:47); and  
17

18           **WHEREAS**, Many congregations in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and the  
19           Kansas District are facing declining membership to the point that they are no longer financially able to  
20           support the cost of compensating a full-time pastor, especially considering healthcare costs and the rising  
21           cost of living; and  
22

23           **WHEREAS**, The key to the vitality of any church is the faithful proclamation of God’s Word and  
24           administration of His Sacraments; and believers in Christ are called to reach out with the Gospel  
25           message (1 Peter 2:9); and  
26

27           **WHEREAS**, The Synod has recognized these challenges and in response developed *Every One*  
28           *His Witness*, an evangelism program rooted in the Lutheran understanding of vocation, and *re:Vitality*, a  
29           church revitalization program, and commended the use of these resources by all LCMS congregations in  
30           Synod Convention Resolutions (16-01-01 and 16-01-03); therefore be it  
31

32           **Resolved**, That we pray for the well-being of our workers and parishioners in congregations  
33           particularly hard hit by these challenges; and be it further  
34

35           **Resolved**, That the convention encourages Kansas District congregations to use the *Every One*  
36           *His Witness* and *re:Vitality* resources as they work to set congregation goals and missions, and to reach  
37           the unchurched and those who have drifted away; and be it further  
38

39           **Resolved**, That resources be used that already exist to aid not only small congregations and  
40           multi-congregation parishes, but congregations of all sizes, and their pastors, such as The Partnership  
41           Project (Kansas District, [www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org)), *re:Vitality* guided self-assessment (LCMS), MissionInsite  
42           reports (Lutheran Church Extension Fund), Rural and Small Town Mission resources (LCMS), and LCMS  
43           Stewardship Ministry; and be it further  
44

45           **Resolved**, That circuit congregations, pastors, and lay people be encouraged to discuss best  
46           practice options and resources for their congregations with the District President and the Assistant to the  
47           President for Congregational and School Services; and be it further  
48

49           **Resolved**, That larger congregations in the LCMS Kansas District be encouraged to discuss  
50           options for how they might aid congregations in the District with the District President and the Assistant to  
51           the President for Congregational and School Services (Acts 11:27-30); and be it finally

52           **Resolved**, That we recognize God's hand in everything, trusting that where the Word is preached  
53 faithfully, it will accomplish God's purpose (Is. 55:11, "My Word . . . shall not return to me empty, but it  
54 shall accomplish that which I purpose").

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Engage in Training for Witness and Outreach**

1           **WHEREAS**, Christians as God’s people are to “proclaim the excellencies of him who called [us]  
2 out of darkness into his marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9) and to always be prepared “to make a defense to  
3 anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15); and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, As Martin Luther observed, it might seem “best for God to take away our breath and  
6 let us die as soon as we are baptized and have begun to believe. But He lets us live here in order that we  
7 may lead other people to believe, doing for them what He has done for us” (What Luther Says, [CPH,  
8 1959] § 3021; WA 12:267); and  
9

10           **WHEREAS**, Christians know and interact with many non-Christians and unchurched people  
11 through their vocations and daily lives (e.g., family, coworkers, classmates); and  
12 **WHEREAS**, Most people who attend church for the first time or for the first time in a long time do so at the  
13 invitation of a member who has a relationship with them; and  
14

15           **WHEREAS**, In this sinful world, Christians are often hesitant to speak of Christ with others; and  
16

17           **WHEREAS**, Such hesitancy can be addressed through learning not only the biblical message of  
18 the Gospel but also practical ways to become conversant in bearing witness to it; and  
19

20           **WHEREAS**, There are many resources for teaching Christians how to become more comfortable  
21 bearing witness to Christ within the context of their vocations, including (but not limited to) *Everyone One*  
22 *His Witness* and *Equipping to Share*, published by the LCMS Office of National Mission and Concordia  
23 Publishing House; and  
24

25           **WHEREAS**, In the Kansas District many congregations have focused on neighborhood visitation  
26 through programs like *Jesus Door to Door*; therefore be it  
27

28           **Resolved**, That the Kansas District remind all the baptized members of its congregations to  
29 recognize they are Christ’s witnesses wherever they are; and be it further  
30

31           **Resolved**, That the Kansas District remind its pastors and other church workers to model for  
32 people a desire to reach the lost, whether they be unchurched or dechurched, following Paul’s  
33 admonishment in 2 Timothy 4:5 “do the work of an evangelist”; and be it further  
34

35           **Resolved**, That the Kansas District encourage its congregations to make the equipping of  
36 Christians for witness and outreach a priority over the coming triennium; and be it further  
37 **Resolved**, That the Kansas District encourage its congregations, their pastors, and other church workers  
38 to teach church members in Bible studies and congregational workshops key witnessing skills, together  
39 with the opportunity to practice such skills; and be it further  
40

41           **Resolved**, That the Kansas District encourage and assist congregations as they train their  
42 members to tell the Good News about Jesus, Christ crucified for sinners, by providing resources and  
43 training witness and outreach facilitators; and be it finally  
44

45           **Resolved**, That throughout the coming triennium each circuit be encouraged to sponsor a  
46 convocation focused on equipping Christians for witness and outreach.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Term Limits**

1           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters is required to “examine the articles  
2 of incorporation, bylaws and policy manuals of every agency of the Synod to ascertain whether they are  
3 in harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of Synod” (LCMS Handbook 2023 3.9.2.2.3);  
4 and  
5

6           **WHEREAS**, The Bylaws of the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have  
7 been reviewed, modified and presented to the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors for consideration;  
8 and  
9

10          **WHEREAS**, The Kansas District Board of Directors passed Resolution 23D-01-04, “To Establish  
11 Uniform Term Limits” by a unanimous vote on November 3, 2023:  
12

13          **Resolution 23D-01-04 – To Establish Uniform Term Limits**

14          **Whereas**, in 1985 the Kansas District first established term limits for the Office of the District President  
15 to three (3), 3-year terms; and

16          **Whereas**, the 2009 Kansas District Convention passed Resolution 09-01-02 to increase the term limits  
17 for the Office of the District President by one term to four (4); and

18          **Whereas**, the 2022 Kansas District Convention passed Omnibus Resolution A: “To Decrease the  
19 Term Limit of the Office of the District President from 4 Terms (12 years) to 3 Terms (9 Years)” (Overture  
20 22-03-07); and

21          **Whereas**, the conversation of the open floor committee hearings focused on making uniform terms of  
22 elected offices in the Kansas District and were not focused on reducing the term limit of the Office of the  
23 District President; and

24          **Whereas**, conversations with pastors at Circuit Winkel gatherings has provided near unanimous  
25 support of the same; and

26          **Whereas**, the Kansas District Board of Directors is in unanimous agreement of establishing uniform  
27 term limits; therefore, be it

28          **Resolved**, that the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws be changed to allow 4, 3-year term limits for the  
29 following positions: Region Vice-President, District Secretary, Board of Directors members, and Circuit  
30 Visitors; and be it finally

31          **Resolved**, that these changes be put into place immediately at the 2025 Kansas District Convention  
32 for the purpose of elections. And;  
33

34          **WHEREAS**, The Kansas District has received ample feedback from Ordained and Commissioned  
35 Ministers and Lay Members about the changes to the term limits; and  
36

37          **WHEREAS**, Changes have been made to the bylaws (shown with strikeouts and underlining)  
38 requiring convention approval; and  
39

40          **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters approves the proposal for  
41 presentation to the 75<sup>th</sup> convention of the LCMS Kansas District as consistent with the Constitution and  
42 Bylaws of the Synod; therefore be it  
43

44          **Resolved**, That the convention of the LCMS Kansas District adopt the Bylaws, as modified.

45          3.3.2   The term of office for the Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Circuit Visitors, and the Board of Directors  
46 shall be three (3) years. None of these officers shall serve more than ~~three~~ four consecutive  
47 terms.  
48

49          3.3.6   Members of District boards and commissions shall be ineligible for reelection or reappointment  
50 to the same board or commission after serving ~~three~~ four ~~(3)~~ (4) consecutive terms unless  
51 otherwise provided in the bylaws. They may become eligible again for election or appointment



52  
53

to the same office, board, or commission after an interval of three (3) or more years. More than one half (1/2) term shall be regarded as a full term.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Ministers Conferences**

1           **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters is required to “examine the articles  
2 of incorporation, bylaws and policy manuals of every agency of the Synod to ascertain whether they are  
3 in harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of Synod” (LCMS Handbook 2023 3.9.2.2.3);  
4 and  
5

6           **WHEREAS**, The Bylaws of the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have  
7 been reviewed, modified and presented to the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors for consideration;  
8 and  
9

10          **WHEREAS**, There are other regional conferences for Commissioned Ministers to participate,  
11 including the “Great Plains Lutheran Educators Conference” and “LEA – Lutheran Education Association”;  
12 and  
13

14          **WHEREAS**, It is still the strong desire to retain the collegial and fraternal bonds between the  
15 Ordained and Commissioned Ministers of the Kansas District by holding a joint workers conference; and  
16

17          **WHEREAS**, There are challenges of keeping a strict conference schedule and determining a  
18 conference keynote speaker that “fits the needs” of both groups of workers, especially when it comes to  
19 points needed for teacher licensure; and  
20

21          **WHEREAS**, Changes have been made to the bylaws (shown with strikeouts and underlining)  
22 requiring convention approval; and  
23

24          **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters approves the proposal for  
25 presentation to the 75<sup>th</sup> convention of the LCMS Kansas District as consistent with the Constitution and  
26 Bylaws of the Synod; therefore be it  
27

28          **Resolved**, That the convention of the LCMS Kansas District adopt the Bylaws, as modified.  
29          5.2.1.3 ~~In the odd-numbered years~~ **At least once a triennium**, the ordained ministers conference and  
30 the commissioned ministers conference shall be held at the same time and in the same city  
31 so that both conferences shall be enabled to meet together in joint session at least part of the  
32 time. Exceptions may be made by the District President in consultation with the President’s  
33 Council.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Quarterly Board Meetings**

- 1           **WHEREAS**, LCMS Handbook 1.5.3 says “Every agency of the Synod shall meet at least quarterly
- 2 unless otherwise stipulated in the Bylaws”; and
- 3
- 4           **WHEREAS**, “A minimum of four (4) times” is not as precise of a time designation as “quarterly”;
- 5 therefore be it
- 6
- 7           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw
- 8 3.2.1.3(a). Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be
- 9 subject to CCM approval.
- 10          3.2.1.3(a) The Board of Directors shall meet ~~a minimum of four (4) times~~ at least quarterly each
- 11 year. Additional meetings may be called by the District President. Time and place of these
- 12 meetings shall be determined by the District President. A majority of members of the Board shall
- 13 constitute a quorum.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Term of Office  
of Appointive Boards**

1           **WHEREAS**, appointive boards, committees, and commissions do not receive their appointment at  
2 District convention but rather later, therefore be it

3  
4           **Resolved**, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw 3.3.5.  
5 Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be subject to CCM  
6 approval.

7           3.3.5 The term of office of appointive boards, committees, and commissions shall run from the  
8 moment of their appointment until the next concurrent with District convention. Due to their  
9 responsibilities, the District Youth Ministry Team and the Church Worker Conference Planning  
10 Committee are exempt from this running concurrent with District convention.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Filling Vacancies in Standing Committees**

1           **WHEREAS**, the members of standing committees “are appointed by the District President and  
2 approved by the Board of Directors” (Bylaws 3.2.6.1) and must be “members in good standing of a voting  
3 congregation of the Kansas District” (3.2.6.2)  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, the language for filling vacancies of these standing committees is vague, therefore  
6 be it  
7

8           **Resolved**, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw 3.7.3.  
9 Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be subject to CCM  
10 approval.

11           3.7.3 Vacancies in standing committees shall be filled by the District President upon approval by  
12 the Board of Directors with a member who is in good standing of a voting congregation of the  
13 Kansas District.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Ranking  
the Vice-Presidents**

1           **WHEREAS**, Bylaws 4.3.5 provides clarity for the election of Vice-Presidents in the case that no  
2 majority is reached on any particular ballot, and

3  
4           **WHEREAS**, A further series of elections rank the Vice-Presidents (4.3.6) but do not provide a  
5 solution if no one receives majority on any particular ballot, therefore be it

6  
7           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw 4.3.6.  
8 Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be subject to CCM  
9 approval.

10           4.3.6 Upon the election of the regional Vice-Presidents, a final election shall take place ranking  
11 the Vice-Presidents by separate ballots with a simple majority determining the first, second, third  
12 and fourth Vice-Presidents in line of succession. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes  
13 cast, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated on each subsequent ballot until  
14 one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Credentials  
for Voting Delegates**

1           **WHEREAS**, According to Synod Handbook 4.2.2.(a), the District must allow voting delegates to  
2 provide proper credentials to the District Secretary up to the opening day of convention, therefore be it  
3

4           **WHEREAS**, That the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw 5.1.2.  
5 Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be subject to CCM  
6 approval.

7           5.1.2    The regular convention of the District is held in the year immediately preceding the  
8 general convention of the Synod. Only the Synod has the right to make an exception to this rule.  
9 Each of the parishes/congregations of the District (a multi-congregation parish being considered  
10 as a congregational unit) shall be represented by one (1) pastor and one (1) lay delegate duly  
11 elected by the congregation at least one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the Convention.

12           Delegates may also provide such credentials to the District Secretary at the opening of the  
13 convention. Congregations of a multi-congregation parish not contributing a lay voter may send  
14 an advisory lay delegate, with voice but no vote, according to the Synod Bylaws.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Expenses for Conferences**

1           **WHEREAS**, Congregations cannot be compelled to bear the expense of sending their ordained  
2 or commissioned ministers to Synod or District conferences (LCMS Constitution, Article VII), therefore be  
3 it  
4  
5           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw 5.2.2.1.  
6 Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be subject to CCM  
7 approval.  
8           5.2.2.1 ~~It is requested that t~~Travel, meals, housing, and other expenses for professional workers  
9 attending official conferences ~~shall~~ be borne by the congregations of the ordained ministers and  
10 commissioned ministers involved.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*



**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Determination of Electoral Circuits**

1           **WHEREAS**, According to the LCMS Handbook 3.1.2(a), an electoral circuit “shall be determined  
2 by the district board of directors,” therefore be it

3  
4           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to Bylaw 5.4.  
5 Proposed wording changes to be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention will be subject to CCM  
6 approval.

7           5.4 Electoral Circuit Meetings: The congregations of a visitation circuit or two adjacent visitation  
8 circuits, as determined by the Board of Directors, shall meet once triennially to carry out the  
9 responsibility of electing delegates to the general convention of the Synod and to consider  
10 sending overtures to the Synod convention, according to the Synod Bylaws.

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

**To Approve Revisions to the LCMS Kansas District Bylaws Regarding Cleaning Up Formatting**

- 1           **WHEREAS**, There are minor formatting and numbers errors that were included in the final  
2 approved copy of the District Bylaws, therefore be it  
3  
4           **Resolved**, That the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve changes to the Bylaws.  
5 Proposed changes will be included for the 2025 Kansas District Convention.  
6 Bylaw 2.6: changing the subsections (a), (b), etc. to numbers 2.6.1, 2.6.2, etc.  
7 Bylaw 3.3.6: remove underlining of the final sentence  
8 Bylaw 5.1.~~12~~ ...  
9 Bylaw 5.1.~~23~~ ...  
10 Bylaw 5.1.~~34~~ ... (note that the four is crossed out, but this is at the same level as the crossbar for  
11 the number 4)  
12 Bylaw 5.3: remove the underlining of the word “lay”

*Submitted by the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors*

# LCMS Kansas District

# BYLAWS



**June 2022**

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**THE KANSAS DISTRICT  
of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
as amended**

**PREAMBLE**

The undersigned, citizens of the State of Kansas, do hereby voluntarily associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a private corporation under the laws of the State of Kansas, and do hereby certify

**1. NAME**

- 1.1** That the name of this corporation shall be The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**2. CONFSSION AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1** That the purposes for which this corporation is formed are to propagate the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, and to aid congregations in securing and maintaining property for public worship, according to the Confessions of the Book of Concord of the year 1580. All provisions of the Kansas District Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention.

**3. DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

- 3.1** That the places where its business is to be transacted are at any and all places in Kansas.

**4. TERM OF EXISTENCE**

- 4.1** The term of existence of this corporation shall be perpetual.
- 4.2** In the event of dissolution other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the assets of the Kansas District, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**5. GOVERNANCE OF THE CORPORATION**

- 5.1** That the number of directors of this corporation shall be not less than three nor more than twenty.

**5.2** In testimony whereof, we hereunto subscribed our names, this 31st day of January, A.D. 1890.

F. Pennekamp

H. C. Senne

Aug. Mangeldorf

C. Vetter

F. Droegemueller

C. Hafner

### **MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS**

Our mission is to support and encourage the members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His church (Matt. 28).

Our vision is to partner with and connect the workers, congregations, and schools of the District with resources to advance God's mission.

# THE BYLAWS

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as redeemed children of God, acknowledge our part in Christ's mission of proclaiming the freedom and forgiveness of God in Christ to all human beings and of providing aid for them in their spiritual and physical needs. We acknowledge that we have bound ourselves together in a common bond of faith based on the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions as the members of District and Synod because we recognize the need for helping each other carry out this mission. We need the ministry of fellow Christians so that, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we may grow in faith and be better prepared to participate in Christ's mission both individually and corporately. In order that we may carry out this mission effectively, we, united in the common bond of faith and love, have established these procedures that shall help to strengthen and guide us. Within the framework of these procedures, we pledge ourselves to study the Scriptures diligently, to use the Sacraments faithfully, and to solicit the help of the Holy Spirit boldly.

## 1. NAME

- 1.1** The name of this corporation is “The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,” hereinafter referred to as “the Kansas District” or “the District.”

## 2. ORGANIZATION

- 2.1 Constitution:** The Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is also the constitution of the Kansas District. The Bylaws of the Synod are also the primary bylaws of the Kansas District.
- 2.2 Legal Representation:** The President and Secretary of the District shall sign all official documents of the District in the name of the District.
- 2.3 Membership:** Membership in the Kansas District shall be governed by the Constitution and the Bylaws of the Synod.
- 2.4 Relationship of the District to the Synod:** The relationship of the Kansas District to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.
- 2.5 District Conventions:** District conventions shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and also by the specific articles governing convention procedure as may be defined in these bylaws and the District Operations Manual (which includes position descriptions for Convention Floor Committees, District Convention Planning Committee, Elections Committee, Nominations Committee, Endorsement of Candidates for District Office, and the like).

- 2.6 District Board of Directors:** The business and financial affairs of the District shall be governed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors oversees the implementation of the strategic mission of the District and is responsible to the District convention to equip, enable, and encourage congregations to proclaim the Gospel. The Board of Directors is vested with the general management and supervision of the District's business and legal affairs and shall adopt policies and require procedures that assure said management and supervision are effected. Between conventions the Board of Directors shall:
- (a) 2.6.1 Provide for implementation within the District of decisions of the Synod and District conventions;
  - (b) 2.6.2 Approve and review progress of work program plans;
  - (c) 2.6.3 Adopt annual budgets to support work plans;
  - (d) 2.6.4 Procure and allocate necessary funds for support of Synod and District budgets;
  - (e) 2.6.5 Review program performance;
  - (f) 2.6.6 Call or hire District executive staff as deemed appropriate;
  - (g) 2.6.7 Provide review of executive staff positions; and
  - (h) 2.6.8 Administer the District endowment funds and other District funds.
- 2.7 District Operations Manual:** In addition to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and the bylaws of the District, a District Operations Manual shall be established and maintained. This Operations Manual shall specify responsibilities of all officers, boards, and committees, as well as policy statements and operating procedures governing all District functions.
- 2.8 Geographical Regions:** The District shall be divided into geographical regions, each comprised of two (2) or more circuits, by the action of the District convention. A vice-president and a layperson shall be elected to the Board of Directors from each geographic region, and a layperson from each geographic region shall be elected to the District Nominations Committee. The region membership of an individual is determined by the region of the congregation of which he or she is a member.

### 3. ADMINISTRATION

- 3.1 Elective and appointive officers shall execute their responsibilities in accordance with Synod Bylaws. These elective and appointive officers shall be:**
- 3.1.1 The District President: The District President shall be elected from the clergy roster of Synod and upon assumption of office shall hold membership in a member congregation of the District. The District President is the chief executive of the District. He shall represent the Synod in the District. He is responsible for implementation of the



resolutions of the Synod and the District conventions. The District President serves the congregations of the District as liaison between the congregations, District, and the Synod, and provides leadership and vision for the common work of the congregations, District, and District staff. He is responsible as top staff administrator for oversight of staff carrying out the directives of the Board of Directors. He shall serve as a voting member of the District Board of Directors and is not eligible to be appointed as the Presiding Officer of the Board meetings. The District President also serves as an ecclesiastical supervisor to congregations and individual members of the Synod, makes official visits and investigations, and maintains the official roster of workers in the District.

- 3.1.2 Vice-Presidents: A District Vice-President shall be elected from each region as provided by District Bylaw 2.8. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected from the clergy roster of the District and have membership in a congregation within the region from which they are elected. The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in administering the overall program of the District, especially in their regions. They shall succeed to the office of President, in the event the President is unable to serve, in the order designated by the convention.
- 3.1.3 Secretary: The District Secretary shall be elected from the clergy roster of the District and shall hold membership in a voting congregation of the District. The District Secretary is responsible for conducting the nominations process for the elections of President and Vice-Presidents, facilitating the work of the Nominations Committee, organizing the work of the Elections Committee, and maintaining the District Operations Manual and related guidelines. The District Secretary is responsible for recording and preserving the official record of actions of the District convention and the Board of Directors.
- 3.1.4 Treasurer: The District Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and is the custodian of all money and legal documents of the District. The Treasurer is assisted by the District staff for accounting and preparation of records. The Treasurer shall be a layperson, a member of a voting congregation of the District, and shall demonstrate skills in finance and accounting. The appointment shall run concurrent with District convention, after which reappointment may be granted.
- 3.1.5 Circuit Visitors: A Circuit Visitor for each circuit of the District shall be nominated and elected from the clergy roster of the District as prescribed by the Bylaws of the Synod.
- 3.1.6 The Conference of Circuit Visitors shall assist the District President according to the Bylaws of the LCMS and shall serve as liaison to bring the needs of congregations to the attention of the District President.
- 3.1.7 Presiding Officer of Board meetings: The Board of Directors shall appoint a member of the Board to be the Presiding Officer of the meetings of the Board in consultation with and with the concurrence of the District President. The District President will not

normally serve as the Presiding Officer of the Board meetings. In the absence of the Presiding Officer, the District President shall assume the role of Presiding Officer, pro tem.

### **3.2 Elective Boards and Appointive Boards, Committees, and Commissions shall be:**

#### 3.2.1 The Board of Directors

3.2.1.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of seventeen (17) voting members elected at the District Convention:

(a) Seven (7) ordained ministers:

(1) The District President

(2) The Regional Vice-Presidents

(3) The District Secretary

(4) The Chairperson of the Conference of Circuit Visitor

(b) Three (3) commissioned ministers

(c) Seven (7) laypersons, at least one (1) elected from each region. (Regional members shall have residence membership in a congregation within their region.)

3.2.1.2 The advisors of the Board of Directors shall be the District Treasurer and the District lead staff.

#### 3.2.1.3 Board Meetings

(a) The Board of Directors shall meet ~~a minimum of four (4) times at least~~ quarterly each year. Additional meetings may be called by the District President. Time and place of these meetings shall be determined by the District President. A majority of members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

(b) To meet the exigencies of District operations, the Board may meet electronically using audio, video, or internet-based conferencing technologies. The Board may vote by written, mailed, or electronic ballot pursuant to notification. Actions taken at such meetings or by written ballot shall have the same effect as those taken at regular meetings of the Board.

(1) In such cases, the technology must allow for each Board member to fully participate (hear, speak, have or been given access to documents and other materials as appropriate), including the opportunity to vote.

- (2) Members must be given a reasonable opportunity to access the electronic meeting. If a Board member does not have access to the technology to be used, arrangements shall be made for the member to participate in person by coming to the District Office or other mutually agreed upon location (prior arrangement necessary).
- (3) As with any board, regular, or special meeting, minutes shall be kept that record a summary of the major points of discussion and any action(s) taken.
- (4) All Board members listening or watching shall acknowledge their presence to the meeting. These names, along with the attending Board members, shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- (5) Quorum: A majority of voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any properly called or scheduled meeting.
- (6) Actions Using Electronic Ballot: In situations where Board members are not able to meet as described above, the Board may take action by use of electronic ballot (e.g., e-mail, internet-based voting, etc.), provided all voting members of the Board cast a vote and the result of the voting is unanimous.

(c) Minutes of previous meetings, including conference calls and the responses to mailed ballots, shall be provided to the members of the Board at least ten (10) days prior to Board meetings.

(d) The agenda for each meeting of the Board shall be prepared by the District President in consultation with the Executive Committee.

(e) The District Secretary shall serve as secretary of the Board.

3.2.2 Service Boards: The Board of Directors shall organize the following service boards as described in the District Operations Manual:

3.2.2.1 Board of Missions: The Board of Missions is responsible for planning and implementing evangelism and mission efforts of the District and equipping, encouraging, and empowering congregations in their mission and outreach efforts.

3.2.2.2 Board of Education and Youth: The Board of Education and Youth is to foster and promote Christian education in the congregations of the District, so that children, youth, and adults may grow in their faith, knowledge, and understanding of God's Word, thereby equipping, encouraging, and empowering them to proclaim the Gospel in their lives.

- 3.2.2.3 Board of Caring Ministry: The Board of Caring Ministry equips, empowers, and encourages congregations in caring ministry, which responds to the special needs of people. It also offers care and support where needed for professional workers of the church.
- 3.2.2.4 Board of Stewardship: The Board of Stewardship encourages the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes and fulfilling the responsibilities of the Synod Bylaws.
- 3.2.2.5 Board of Administration: The Board of Administration provides administrative and support services to the Board of Directors and congregations of the District including accounting, property management, communications, and related services.
- 3.2.2.6 Executive Committee
- (a) The Executive Committee shall include the District President, Presiding Officer of the Board meetings, the Regional Vice-Presidents, the Chairman of the Circuit Visitors, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The District President shall serve as chairman of the Executive Committee. The District lead staff, defined as executive and professional staff, are advisors of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall recommend action to the Board on matters that do not fall within the scope of activities of the boards listed above. The Executive Committee is to serve as the coordinating agency of the Board of Directors for meeting preparation, recommendations for appointments, and as a forum for sharing program and budget information with service boards.
- (b) Emergency meetings: The Executive Committee may act for the Board of Directors in times of emergency between meetings and in all matters delegated to it by specific action or by policy of the Board, including response to legal action. The Executive Committee may not perform acts specifically required by statute or by legislation or the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod that are required to be performed by the Board, nor may they overturn actions of the Board. All Executive Committee actions shall be reported to the Board of Directors. Any member of the Executive Committee may request full Board action on any matter. Minutes of the Executive Committee shall be sent to the Board within two weeks of Committee action. These meetings may be called by the District President, the Presiding Officer of the Board meetings, or three members of the Executive Committee.
- 3.2.2.7 Salary Review Committee: The Salary Review Committee is responsible to the Board of Directors for recommending salaries for the staff positions of the

District and recommending guidelines for worker compensation for use by congregations.

3.2.2.8 President's Council: The President's Council shall consist of the District President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and Chairperson of the Circuit Visitors. The District President may consult with them on ecclesiastical matters as appropriate.

3.2.3 The District Nominations Committee

3.2.4 One member of the Synod's Committee for Convention Nominations when required.

3.2.5 The following Service Boards are appointed by the District President in consultation with the Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors: Board of Caring Ministry, Board of Stewardship, Board of Education and Youth, Board of Missions, and the Board of Administration.

3.2.6 Standing Committees and Commissions of the Kansas District shall be the Elections Committee, the Congregational Constitution and Bylaw Review Committee, the District Bylaws and Operations Manual Committee, and others described in the District Operations Manual.

3.2.6.1 Members of these standing committees are appointed by the District President and approved by the Board of Directors.

3.2.6.2 Members of these standing committees must be members in good standing of a voting congregation of the Kansas District.

3.2.7 Special Committees

3.2.7.1 Special committees shall be such committees as are from time to time necessary for carrying out the duties of the District service boards. Members of these committees are appointed by the District President in consultation with the Executive Committee and are approved by the Board of Directors.

3.2.7.2 Members of these committees must be members of a voting congregation of the Kansas District.

### **3.3 Term of Office**

3.3.1 The term of office for the President shall be three (3) years. The President shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive terms.

3.3.2 The term of office for the Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Circuit Visitors, and the Board of Directors shall be three (3) years. None of these officers shall serve more than ~~three~~ four consecutive terms.

- 3.3.3 Service of more than one half (1/2) term in any elected office shall be regarded as a full term.
- 3.3.4 The term of office of the District Nominations Committee shall be three (3) years. Members of the Committee may not succeed themselves.
- 3.3.5 The term of office of appointive boards, committees, and commissions shall run from the moment of their appointment until the next ~~concurrent with~~ District convention. Due to their responsibilities, the District Youth Ministry Team and the Church Worker Conference Planning Committee are exempt from this running concurrent with District convention.
- 3.3.6 Members of District boards and commissions shall be ineligible for reelection or reappointment to the same board or commission after serving ~~three~~ four (3) (4) consecutive terms unless otherwise provided in the bylaws. They may become eligible again for election or appointment to the same office, board, or commission after an interval of three (3) or more years. More than one half (1/2) term shall be regarded as a full term.
- 3.3.7 Any member of a board or commission who is ineligible for reelection or reappointment may be elected or appointed to another position.
- 3.3.8 Members of the District staff, while eligible for elective office, shall not serve concurrently as staff and elected officers.
- 3.4 Accountability of Officers, Boards, Committees, and Commissions:** All boards, committees, and commissions shall be responsible to the Board of Directors for the discharge of their responsibilities. Officers in general are responsible to the convention of the District and, as regards ecclesiastical supervision, to the President of the District.
- 3.5 Holding More than One (1) Elective Office:** A nominated candidate, if elected, may not hold more than one (1) office to which he/she was elected. The individual may be considered for a second office, provided it is by official appointment as referenced in the Synod Bylaws. Doubtful cases shall be decided by the President of Synod.
- 3.6 Succession to the Office of District President:** The Vice-Presidents shall, in the order in which they have been designated by the District convention, succeed to the presidency in the event the President becomes unable to carry out his duties. Whenever the Board of Directors determines that the President is unable to serve in the capacity because of prolonged illness or disability, the duties and responsibilities of the office of the President shall be assumed by the First Vice-President. The First Vice-President shall remain as the acting President until the Board of Directors determines that the conditions of illness or disability have been removed.

### **3.7 Vacancies in Elective or Appointive Office**

- 3.7.1 In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Vice-President, a successor shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from the region not represented. A Vice-President so appointed shall be last in the order of succession.
- 3.7.2 Vacancies that occur in the office of Circuit Visitor between conventions shall be filled by appointment by the District President.
- 3.7.3 Vacancies in standing committees shall be filled by the District President upon approval by the Board of Directors with a member who is in good standing of a voting congregation of the Kansas District.
- 3.7.4 Vacancies in the other elective or appointed offices or any other board, special committee, or commission shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. At least one nominee shall be submitted by the Executive Committee. A vacancy in a position of a regionally elected layperson on the Board of Directors shall be filled with an appointee from that region.

- 3.8 **Appointment of Board Chairpersons:** The President shall appoint the chairperson of each service board in consultation with the Executive Committee and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

## **4. CONVENTION NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- 4.1 **Nominations Committee:** There shall be a District Nominations Committee consisting of three (3) ordained ministers (not more than one [1] from the same region of the District), one (1) commissioned minister, and four (4) laypersons, (one [1] elected from each region of the District). These shall be elected at a regular District convention from the membership of voting congregations. This committee shall propose at least two (2) candidates for each office to be filled at the next District convention except the offices of President, Vice-President, and Circuit Visitor. All incumbents eligible for reelection shall be considered to be nominees. The region membership of an individual is determined by the region of the congregation of which he or she is a member.
- 4.2 **Nominations for District President, Vice-Presidents, Regional Lay Members of the Board of Directors, and Circuit Visitors**
  - 4.2.1 District President: Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate one ordained minister as candidate for District President. Candidates for the office of District President shall be on the clergy roster of Synod. Only three individuals receiving the highest number of nominations, and agreeing to serve if elected, may be listed on the convention ballot.
  - 4.2.2 Regional Vice-Presidents: Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate from their region one ordained minister from the clergy roster of the District who shall have membership in a congregation within the region from which he was nominated.

Candidates on the ballot for Vice-President from each region shall be all those having been nominated and who agree to serve if elected.

- 4.2.3 Regional Lay Members of the Board of Directors: Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate two lay members who are members of a congregation in the respective region as a candidate for regional lay member of the Board of Directors. Candidates shall be at least the two lay members in the region who receive the greatest number of nominations and agree to serve if elected. All candidates not elected shall be on the ballot for the at-large lay positions on the Board of Directors.
- 4.2.4 Circuit Visitor: The selection of Circuit Visitor shall follow the process detailed in the Synod Handbook.
- 4.2.5 District Secretary: Each congregation or individuals (rostered workers and individual members of congregations) may nominate one pastor who is on the clergy roster of the District and holds membership in a voting congregation of the District.
- 4.2.6 At-Large Lay Members of the Board of Directors: Lay members not designated by region may be nominated by congregations, rostered workers, or individual members of congregations.

### **4.3 Elections**

- 4.3.1 The convention may alter or add to the nominated slates except for the slate for President. A floor nomination must be accompanied by written acceptance of nomination from the nominee and a brief biographical description of the nominee. Material should be provided in digital format when possible.
- 4.3.2 During the convention, the order of elections will be: (1) President, (2) Vice-Presidents, and (3) all other elective positions.
- 4.3.3 A majority of all votes cast shall be required for election to all elective offices and elective board positions. Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot shall be declared elected.
- 4.3.4 The election of the President shall take place by ballot. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated on each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
- 4.3.5 The election of the Vice-Presidents shall take place by ballot. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated on each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
- 4.3.6 Upon the election of the regional Vice-Presidents, a final election shall take place ranking the Vice-Presidents by separate ballots with a simple majority determining the first, second, third and fourth Vice-Presidents in line of succession. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be



eliminated on each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

- 4.3.7 Except on the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following regulations shall apply: Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot will be declared elected. When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15% or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot.

## 5. CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES

### 5.1 District Conventions

- 5.1.21 The regular convention of the District is held in the year immediately preceding the general convention of the Synod. Only the Synod has the right to make an exception to this rule. Each of the parishes/congregations of the District (a multi-congregation parish being considered as a congregational unit) shall be represented by one (1) pastor and one (1) lay delegate duly elected by the congregation at least one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the Convention. Delegates may also provide such credentials to the District Secretary at the opening of the convention. Congregations of a multi-congregation parish not contributing a lay voter may send an advisory lay delegate, with voice but no vote, according to the Synod Bylaws.
- 5.1.32 The vote at all District conventions shall be restricted to the duly elected and certified voting pastors and lay delegates of the congregations. Multi-congregation parishes shall determine the voting lay delegate who shall represent all congregations of that parish. If a congregation or parish has more than one called pastor who is eligible to vote, the congregation shall designate which pastor will cast a vote on behalf of the congregation.
- 5.1.43 The District convention shall be conducted in accordance with the Synod Handbook. Matters for consideration by the convention shall be presented by overture submitted by a member congregation of the District, the District Board of Directors, an official District conference of ordained and/or commissioned ministers, a committee established by a prior convention, or a forum of a circuit. Resolutions for consideration by the convention shall be brought to the floor of the convention by appointed Floor Committees.

### 5.2 District Ordained and Commissioned Minister Conferences

#### 5.2.1 Official Conferences

- 5.2.1.1 Districtwide ordained ministers conferences shall be held at least once each year.

- 5.2.1.2 Districtwide commissioned ministers conferences shall be held at least once each year.
- 5.2.1.3 ~~In the odd-numbered years~~ At least once a triennium, the ordained ministers conference and the commissioned ministers conference shall be held at the same time and in the same city so that both conferences shall be enabled to meet together in joint session at least part of the time. Exceptions may be made by the District President in consultation with the President's Council.

## 5.2.2 General Regulations

- 5.2.2.1 It is requested that ~~t~~Travel, meals, housing, and other expenses for professional workers attending official conferences ~~shall~~ be borne by the congregations of the ordained ministers and commissioned ministers involved.
- 5.2.2.2 All ordained ministers conferences and commissioned ministers conferences shall be governed by the regulations stated in the Bylaws of the Synod.
- 5.2.2.3 All ordained and commissioned ministers on the District rosters are expected to attend the meeting of their official conference or present a valid excuse.

**5.3 Visitation Circuit Forums:** The congregations of a visitation circuit, represented by a pastor and one layperson of each member congregation or one layperson from a multi-congregation parish as designated by the congregation or parish, shall meet in circuit forums at least once triennially to select Circuit Visitors, to participate in the triennial process of suggesting mission and ministry emphases to the District convention, and to consider submitting other overtures to the District or Synod convention as described in the Synod Bylaws. In addition, the forum is encouraged to meet at least two times a year to carry out other functions as described in the Synod Bylaws. Congregations of a multi-congregation parish not contributing a lay voter may send an advisory lay delegate, with voice but no vote.

**5.4 Electoral Circuit Meetings:** The congregations of a visitation circuit or two adjacent visitation circuits, as determined by the Board of Directors, shall meet once triennially to carry out the responsibility of electing delegates to the general convention of the Synod and to consider sending overtures to the Synod convention, according to the Synod Bylaws.

**5.5 Circuit Convocations:** Circuits of the Kansas District may hold circuit convocations in the year following the Synod convention. Joint convocations of circuits may be held among circuits. The purpose of the circuit convocation is to provide a setting in which congregational members may review and discuss the work of the circuit forum and may receive information on various phases of the work pursued through districts and the Synod. Its emphasis will be on inspiration, education, and motivation.

## **6. PROPERTY**

- 6.1** This corporation shall have power to acquire by gift, grants, demise, devise, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, property of every kind and description, real, personal, or mixed; to hold and use such property and deal with, or dispose of, any or all such property by sale, exchange, or gift, when necessary or expedient to carry out the objectives of the corporation; provided that all such property shall be acquired, dealt with, or disposed of in a manner not in conflict with the laws of the State of Kansas or the laws of any state in which said property is located.

## **7. AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES**

- 7.1** Changes in these bylaws and additions thereto may be made provided they are not contrary to the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod, have received prior approval of the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters, are presented to the congregations of the District at least thirty (30) days prior to the time they are presented for vote, are separately considered and acted upon, and are passed by a majority of the voting delegates at a District convention.
- 7.2** The District in convention may vote to amend its articles or bylaws provided the resolution is contingent on approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The amended articles or bylaws become effective immediately upon, and only upon, approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. Should the Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the adopted changes, the District Board of Directors may modify amendments to comply with the Commission on Constitutional Matters requirements upon their two-thirds vote.

## **8. DISTRICT OPERATIONS MANUAL**

- 8.1** Changes to the District Operations Manual that do not affect the Bylaws of the District shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may not adopt any proposed changes to the District Operations Manual that are contrary to the bylaws of the District.